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East Asia

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Japan

Russian President Affirms Visit on 11-13 Oct

Hosokawa 'Glad' of Decision

*OW0510113993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1115 GMT
5 Oct 93*

[Text] Moscow, Oct. 5 KYODO—Russian President Boris Yeltsin will make his planned trip to Japan from October 11 to 13 as scheduled, his press office said Tuesday [5 October]. The announcement came after Yeltsin crushed his hard-line parliamentary opposition in two days of fighting which reportedly left 59 people killed and several hundreds injured. It also came amid indications that Yeltsin might cancel his official visit to Tokyo for the third time in a year. The Russian president previously twice canceled scheduled visits to Tokyo, in September 1992 and this past May.

Yeltsin's decision to go ahead with the projected trip to Japan was seen as a bid to demonstrate both to the Russian people and the outside world that he is firmly in control despite the armed confrontations. Yeltsin is scheduled to arrive in Tokyo on the night of October 11 to kick off a three-day visit during which he is to hold two rounds of talks with Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa.

The Russo-Japanese summit is expected to focus on bilateral issues, including the territorial dispute over four Russian-held islands off Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido. Japan has long demanded the return of Kunashiri, Etorofu, Shikotan and the Habomai group of islets, which were seized by Soviet troops at the end of World War II. Japanese officials in Tokyo are predicting little progress on the territorial row which has so far prevented the signing of a peace treaty between the two countries and reduced Japan's enthusiasm for large-scale aid to Russia.

During his Tokyo stay, Yeltsin is scheduled to meet Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko and attend a luncheon meeting to be hosted by the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren).

Yeltsin last visited Tokyo in July for talks with leaders of the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrialized countries on aid to Russia.

In Tokyo, Prime Minister Hosokawa told reporters he was glad of Yeltsin's decision to proceed with his trip and that it reflects a stabilizing situation in Russia.

Yeltsin To Apologize for POW's

*OW0610105093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1017 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Russian President Boris Yeltsin will officially apologize for the internment of some 600,000 Japanese prisoners of war in Soviet labor camps and prisons in Siberia and other places, Foreign

Ministry officials said Wednesday [6 October]. The apology was agreed upon in preparatory diplomatic talks between the Japanese and Russian Governments prior to a promised three-day visit by Yeltsin to Tokyo, which will start next Monday, the officials said. The government regards an apology as "an important pillar" of the diplomatic fruits it expects to harvest during Yeltsin's visit, they said.

Historians say the Soviet Red Army captured some two million Japanese civilians and soldiers in August 1945 from the then Japanese colonies of Manchuria in northern China, North Korea, and the Kuril Islands, of whom 600,000 were interned in Soviet prisons.

Many Japanese troops and families were stranded when the Red Army abruptly violated the Russo-Japanese neutrality pact and attacked on a broad front in the closing days of World War II, as Japan was negotiating surrender terms with the allies. It is estimated some 55,000 perished during their internments. Following the Russo-Japanese joint declaration of October 19, 1956, some 4,500 POWs were repatriated to Japan. It remains to be seen what wording Yeltsin will use in expressing a Russian apology over the fate of the POWs, the officials said.

If Yeltsin uses unambiguous expressions in his statement, it would help alleviate public bitterness toward Russia, which has been exacerbated by the bilateral territorial row over the sovereignty of four Russian-held islands off Hokkaido, they said.

Former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev used the phrase "feelings of sympathy" during his 1991 visit to Tokyo when referring to Russian feelings over the internment of the POWs in a banquet speech at the Imperial Palace. But Gorbachev stopped short of expressing remorse or an outright apology.

Yeltsin made no mention of the pow issue when he visited Tokyo to attend the "G-7 plus one" meeting at the Tokyo summit of seven major industrial powers in July.

At that time, a senior Foreign Ministry official who spoke on condition of anonymity predicted that Japan would seek a Russian apology on the occasion of Yeltsin's October visit.

Framework of Joint Statement Drafted

*OW0610142593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1412 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Japan and Russia have drawn up a framework for a joint statement to be issued after Tokyo summit talks between Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and Russian President Boris Yeltsin on October 12 and 13, government sources said Wednesday [6 October]. The statement is expected to show Japan's support for democratic and economic reform policies of Yeltsin, who is quickly trying to restore stability after a 13-day crisis with conservative foes that ended in a fiery

clash in the parliament building, the sources said. The statement will call on Russia to establish a democratic society that reflects the will of the people based on free and fair elections for a new parliament, the sources said.

Yeltsin dissolved parliament, dominated by hard-liners opposed to his reform drive, on September 21, triggering a political crisis that claimed a number of lives.

On the long-standing dispute over Russian-held territories off Hokkaido, Japan and Russia have agreed in preparatory talks that the statement will not directly refer to the 1956 Japan-Soviet joint declaration, which stipulates Moscow return two of four islands to Japan. The statement will, however, state clearly that the four disputed islands be included in future territorial negotiations, saying that the two leaders "had" serious talks over the reversion of the islets, the sources said.

In the 1956 declaration, the former Soviet Union promised to return Shikotan and the Habomai group of islets to Japan after concluding a peace treaty. Along with Shikotan and the Habomai isle group, the Soviet army captured Kunashiri and Etorofu, all situated off Japan's northernmost coast, at the end of World War II. Moscow unilaterally scuttled the pledge after the Japanese Government renewed a security pact with the United States in 1960.

A joint communique in April 1991, issued by then Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, specifically named the four disputed islands for the first time in bilateral diplomatic documents. The Tokyo summit statement will also spell out a direction for an early settlement of a peace treaty after the territorial dispute is resolved, the sources said.

Yeltsin is slated to arrive in Tokyo next Monday for a three-day visit. The Russian leader has twice canceled planned visits to Japan—in September last year and this May—blaming the cancellation of the first trip on Japan's adamant stance on the territorial issue.

The statement will also urge promotion of mutual visits by top leaders of the two countries and cooperation on nuclear control and disarmament, the sources said.

Joint Economic Declaration Drafted

*OW0610140693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1349 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Japan will cooperate with Russia in 11 economic fields including nuclear electric power generation, transport and telecommunications to help the country move toward a market economy, according to the draft of an economic declaration obtained by KYODO NEWS SERVICE on Wednesday [6 October]. The Japan-Russia economic declaration, titled "prospects of cooperation in trade, economy, science and technology," is to be announced after a summit meeting between Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and President Boris Yeltsin next week.

The Russian president is to pay a three-day visit to Tokyo, beginning on Monday, after having canceled two previous trips, in September 1992 and May this year.

The declaration said Japan and Russia are resolved to expand and develop their trade and economic relations on the principle of law and justice to foster Russian efforts toward democracy and a market economy.

"Successful economic reforms and integration of the Russian economy into the world is essential to both nations," according to the draft of the declaration, which Japanese Government officials said was worked out in addition to a political statement as a result of a "strong request from Russia."

In the declaration, Japan agreed with Russia to enhance cooperation in 11 fields, namely energy, steel and forestry, nuclear power, transport and telecommunications, financial systems, aerospace, agriculture and fisheries, medicine, the environment, transforming military industries into civilian ones, and human resources. In particular, the two nations agreed to promote tie-ups in fishing in the north Pacific and boost cooperation in science and technology to help Russia develop its industry and businesses.

In the declaration, Japan promises to support Russian membership of the Geneva-based General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), following Russia's participation in the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

Cultural Exchange Agreement Planned

*OW0610095393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0925 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Japan and Russia will sign a memorandum for an agreement to expand mutual cultural exchanges when Russian President Boris Yeltsin visits Tokyo next week, Foreign Ministry officials said Wednesday [6 October]. The agreement is aimed at boosting cultural exchanges between Russian people living in the Far Eastern regions and Japanese living in prefectures facing the sea of Japan, the officials said. Both sides plan an exchange of visits of scholars as well as introduce the other's culture by way of television shows, radio broadcasts and movies.

Also, residents in the regions will be given more opportunities to learn Japanese and Russian language from native speakers and both countries will promote exchanges through sports activities. Following the agreement, Japanese and Russian regional leaders will hold a governors' meeting in Unazuki, Toyama Prefecture, central Japan, on November 9 and 10, the officials said.

Sixteen Japanese prefectoral governors and Russian governors from five Far East provinces are scheduled to attend the meeting. They are expected to discuss ways to promote further exchanges in the regions surrounding the sea of Japan in the wake of signing the bilateral cultural accord, the officials said.

The two countries already established a bilateral body last October to promote cultural exchange and held conferences twice, in Tokyo and the Russian Far East port city of Vladivostok.

10,000 Police To Be Deployed

OW0510114093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1108 GMT
5 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—About 10,000 police will be mobilized in Tokyo during Russian President Boris Yeltsin's trip to Japan next week, metropolitan police department sources said Tuesday. The sources said the Tokyo police held a high-level meeting Tuesday [5 October] afternoon to discuss measures to protect the Russian leader. Police officials predicted that about 300 vans equipped with loudspeakers from 150 rightist groups will assemble in Tokyo to protest Yeltsin's visit to Japan. Their activity is anticipated because little progress is likely on a territorial dispute over Russian-held islands and the fact Yeltsin canceled two previous trips.

G-7 Leaders Send Support Message To Yeltsin

OW0610043293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0422 GMT
6 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—The following is a message sent to Russian President Boris Yeltsin Wednesday [6 October] by Group of Seven (G-7) leaders:

We, the leaders of the G-7 countries, state the following:

We regret that the armed clash in Moscow which was provoked by the supporters of the former parliament resulted in many victims. We nevertheless welcome the fact that the situation has ended and law and order is being restored including respect of human rights.

We reconfirm that our support remains unchanged for democratic reform and economic reform pursued by President Yeltsin. We strongly hope that a truly democratic society which reflects the will of the people will be born through free and fair election of the new parliament with broad participation of the people and that the reform will be further promoted.

Hosokawa Relays Message

OW0610031393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0256 GMT
6 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, in a message as Group of Seven chairman to Russian President Boris Yeltsin, said Wednesday [6 October] that the major industrial countries welcome the return of stability in Moscow. Hosokawa also said in his message that the G-7 countries—Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States—expect Yeltsin to proceed with his promised political and economic reforms. Hosokawa sent the message on behalf of the powerful group a day

after the Russian leader crushed rebel parliament members in a showdown and confirmed that he will go ahead with a planned visit to Tokyo next week.

Emergency Medical Relief Sent to Moscow

OW0610043193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0330 GMT
6 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Japan has sent Russia emergency medical supplies worth some 3 million yen in the wake of the violence in Moscow, Foreign Ministry officials said Wednesday [6 October]. Japan offered the aid after the Russian Foreign Ministry on Monday asked the embassies of Group of Seven nations in Moscow for such help, the officials said. The supplies being sent include 15,000 painkilling tablets, 2,000 ampules of antibiotics and 100 blood transfusion sets. The goods are to arrive in Moscow by Wednesday evening and will be handed over to the Russian side by the Japanese Embassy, the officials said. On Monday, Japan donated medicines kept in the medical room of the Japanese Embassy at the request of the Russian Government to treat persons injured in clashes between supporters and opponents of Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Hosokawa: PRC Nuclear Test 'Very Regrettable'

OW0510134193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1322 GMT
5 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa expressed regret Tuesday [5 October] over China's nuclear test earlier in the day. Asked to comment on the Chinese test by reporters at the Diet building, Hosokawa said, "it can only be described in the words very regrettable."

Foreign Ministry spokesman Terusuke Terada had earlier issued a statement saying China's detonation of a nuclear device following a one-year suspension of testing is "extremely regrettable." Terada said it hinders efforts to achieve a comprehensive nuclear test ban, adding Japan will continue to "strongly urge" China not to carry out such tests.

Hiroshima Mayor Takashi Hiraoka sent a note of protest to the Chinese Embassy in Tokyo, denouncing the test as "a reckless action challenging the world trend toward nuclear disarmament."

"China must take full responsibility if this triggers nuclear test competition in the world," Hiraoka said in the letter. The letter was the city's 536th against nuclear tests. The Hiroshima city sent a similar note of protest to China in September, 1992 against its last nuclear test. Since then, no country is known to have tested a nuclear device.

Nagasaki also sent a note of protest to the embassy, saying that "carrying out a nuclear test goes against the current for nuclear arms reduction." Hiroshima and Nagasaki, atom-bombed by the United States in the

closing days of World War II, are the only cities in the world to have suffered nuclear attack.

China Urged To Stop Tests

*OW0610130193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1207 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Japan urged China on Wednesday [6 October] to refrain from conducting a nuclear test following its detonation of a nuclear device in its western area Tuesday after one-year suspension, a Foreign Ministry official said. Vice Foreign Minister Kunihiko Saito made the request to Chinese Ambassador to Japan Xu Dunxin at the Foreign Ministry.

Saito was quoting as telling Xu that "although Japan has repeatedly demanded China suspend a nuclear test through foreign ministers' talks, China conducted the test and it is extremely regrettable."

Pointing out the test goes against the international current toward nuclear disarmament, Saito said "China's test might give an excuse to other nuclear powers to resume nuclear experiments."

Xu, handing over to Saito the Chinese Government's statement claiming the test was only for self-defense, said he will convey the request to the Chinese Government, according to the official. The official said Japan will also ask four other nuclear powers not to resume nuclear tests through its overseas embassies.

In a related development, two local groups in Hiroshima consisting of atomic bomb victims at World War II sent notes of protest to Chinese Premier Li Peng and President Jiang Zemin. The groups condemned the nuclear test in the notes as "a reckless action running counter to international opinion."

Hosokawa Lauds China's 'Rapid Economic Growth'

*OW0610113993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1039 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa on Wednesday [6 October] praised China's rapid economic growth and said he hopes for expanded economic ties between the two countries, a Foreign Ministry official said. The premier made the remarks when he met Bo Xilai, mayor of the northeastern Chinese city of Dalian, at his official residence.

Bo came to Japan on Sunday to promote trade fairs, one of which started in Tokyo on Tuesday in cooperation with the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), an affiliated body of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry. Bo was quoted as saying that over 500 Japanese firms conduct business in the Chinese city and more than 5,000 Japanese people live there. The ministry official said Bo did not ask directly for further Japanese investment in Dalian.

Aside from the three-day Tokyo event, the city of Dalian will also hold trade fairs jointly with JETRO in Osaka on October 13, and in Kitakyushu, Fukuoka Prefecture, on October 18.

Bo, son of the late Bo Yibo, a former vice chairman of the Chinese Communist Party's Central Advisory Commission, will stay in Japan, along with other officials, until October 20.

Taiwan Opposition Seeks Government Ties

*OW0610135993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1337 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—A Taiwanese opposition leader urged Japan's new coalition government Wednesday [6 October] to abandon its Cold War mentality and establish governmental ties with Taipei.

"Japan's policy toward China is still quite confined to the historical past... I believe it is time for Taiwan and Japan to promote relations to the government-to-government level," Hsu Hsin-Liang, chairman of the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), said in an interview. Hsu, leader of a 10-member delegation of DPP legislators, said he will probe whether Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa's government is prepared to "seriously reevaluate" relations with Taiwan in meetings with major political parties on Thursday.

Japan severed relations with Taipei in 1972 in order to establish ties with Beijing. Japan thereafter shunned official government ties with Taiwan, though recently Taiwanese ministers have visited their Japanese counterparts in Tokyo. Both Beijing and Taiwan's ruling Kuomintang regard Taiwan as a province of China. The DPP, which was formed in 1986 as Taiwan's first opposition party, advocates independence.

"Does Japan have to listen so much to China? We don't think so. We want Japan to be more active in building a new order in East Asia," Hsu said. He said he was hopeful relations between Tokyo and Taipei would improve because political heavyweight Ichiro Ozawa of Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party) appears to favor closer ties. Hsu said the delegation also wants to learn from the experiences of Japan's first coalition government in the hope that his party may follow suit in several years.

The DPP occupies 52 seats in the 160-seat Legislative Yuan, and the Kuomintang 96. The remaining seats are occupied by independents. Delegation member Yang Maysing, director of foreign affairs, said the DPP is also seeking support from Japanese legislators for Taiwan's bid to reenter the United Nations.

Last month six Latin American nations proposed opening debate on membership for Taipei, but the move was opposed by China and other countries. Taiwan was ousted from the world body in 1971 when Mainland China took its seat.

U.S. Reportedly Asks for Faster Patent Process

*OW0610011593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0052 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Washington, Oct. 5 KYODO—The United States urged the Japanese Government Tuesday [5 October] to speed up the process of granting commercial patents, Japanese officials said. The Japanese Patent Office currently requires an average of 28 months to grant a commercial patent, compared with 24 months in the U.S. Japanese officials said the U.S. also urged Japan to improve copyright protection in the first round of talks on intellectual property rights under the bilateral "framework" trade accord.

The one-day meeting focused mainly on concerns the U.S. and Japan raised on the protection of patents and copyrights.

During their meeting Tuesday, the Japanese side urged the U.S. to abolish its practice of granting patents to parties who made the discovery even if they apply for a patent later than someone else, noting that most countries in the world today grant patents to those who apply first. The two sides are expected to engage in full-fledged negotiations when they gather in Tokyo in mid-December for the next round of talks, Japanese officials said. The "framework" trade accord commits the two countries to harmonize their economic practices in order to boost the flow of trade.

Aircraft Makers Eye Joining Boeing Project

*OW0510065093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0548 GMT
5 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—Three Japanese aircraft makers have begun to negotiate with Boeing Co. of the United States with a view to participating in a project to develop an advanced version of the Boeing 737 jetliner, industry sources said Tuesday. The three Japanese aircraft makers are Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd., Kawasaki Heavy Industries Ltd. and Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd. Boeing, however, has shown a cautious attitude toward having the three Japanese firms join the new project, the sources said. This is because the move could bring about the suspension of an ongoing joint project to develop a medium-range commercial airliner, known as the YXX, by Boeing and the same three Japanese partners, they said.

The new project calls for construction of an improved version of the 150-seat medium-range jetliner to give it a longer range and faster speeds. The new model will be powered by a newly designed engine with low noise levels, according to the sources.

The YXX project, designed to develop a successor to the Boeing 767, has been under way since 1986, with the U.S. aircraft maker shouldering more than 50 percent of the total cost. The program has been delayed because of difficulty in developing a fuel-efficient engine for the aircraft, the sources said.

African Development Conference Held in Tokyo

Asian Economic Success Spotlighted

*OW0610000793 Tokyo KYODO in English 2330 GMT
5 Oct 93*

[By Susanne Ganz]

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Observing Asia's economic miracle with envy, an increasing number of impoverished and debt-stricken African countries look to the "Far East" to find an answer for successful development.

"We have been tied to the apron strings of the west for too long," Isaac Aluko-Olokun, head of the Nigerian delegation at the Tokyo International Conference on African Development said in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE. By contrast, east and southeast Asia, which experienced their boom only recently, are "a refreshing new experience" and could well serve as a model for Africa, said Aluko-Olokun, chairman of Nigeria's National Planning Commission. Concerning development in sub-Saharan Africa, which groups 31 of the 47 least developed countries in the world, it is still "more or less groping in the dark," he said.

Asian work ethics, discipline and strong bureaucratic control over the private sector are features that could benefit African countries, Aluko-Olokun said. But Aluko-Olokun also seems to favor the Asian model that gives economic growth priority over political reform as a vehicle to deal with western pressures for democratization and respect of human rights. Asian countries were not "pushed for democratization as hard as we are," Aluko-Olokun said, adding he wants western donor nations to put more emphasis on economic development instead.

His expectations of Japan are clear. "I want Japan to be more involved in the international scene because it will be a tempering factor on the west," he said.

Gambian Economics Minister Bakary Darbo, however, thinks it is only "sensible to take on political and economic reform jointly together." He said he understands that donor countries using taxpayers' money would otherwise have difficulty justifying outlays to developing nations.

Successful Asian strategies such as liberal economic reforms, realistic exchange rate policies, an effective private sector, and considerable government engagement to develop human resources, are a "worthwhile model" for Africa to look at, he pointed out.

African misery can partly be blamed on inappropriate policies, political instability and belated economic reform, Dabo conceded. But, he added, growth is also hampered by a lack of economic integration in the region and small domestic markets. This is where Japan could step in with its own experience of generating an economic boom in Asia, instead of "keeping a rather low

profile" in Africa, he said. "Japan's approach to emphasize investment and trade proved highly successful with Asian nations to mutual benefit."

Africa has to follow the Asian example as European development strategies have failed, Djibouti's ambassador to Japan and Asia believes, though acknowledging that both sides bear a certain responsibility for the failure.

"Around 1950 South Korea and Ethiopia were both equally poor. Look where they are today," Rachad Farah said. For lack of resources African countries cannot follow the footsteps of the oil-rich Persian Gulf-nations, and on the African continent there is no viable model besides "probably" South Africa, he said. Farah nevertheless wants Asia to be understood merely as an economic model, while political liberalization should follow the western democratic pattern.

"We need democracy... Without democracy we cannot achieve economic progress," he said. The often-voiced theory that it was authoritarian leadership that led to economic success in countries like South Korea and Taiwan is "Cold War thinking," Farah said. He nevertheless opposes linking economic assistance to democratic reform and human rights issues. "Democracy will be more deeply implemented if we don't squeeze people but let tradition bring the law," Farah said.

Even in the shady areas such as corruption Asia can offer some economically advantageous "example," a member of Cameroon's delegation, who requested not to be named, suggested.

"In Asia secret money circulates in their own country and generates income, while Africans put their kickbacks into Swiss bank accounts," he said. Flight capital from Africa is stashed away in foreign accounts as people do not trust the stability of their own countries, he said.

"The international community should go after flight capital like after laundered drug money," he said, urging an international control system.

The two-day confab with representatives of over 60 countries and a number of international organizations is co-hosted by the Japanese Government, the United Nations and the International Conference on African Development. Tokyo, which proposed the conference, cited increasing awareness of African issues among the Japanese public as one of its goals. The media, however, was shut out from most conference sessions.

Hata Announces Exchange Program

*OW0610055893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0529 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Japanese Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata unveiled Wednesday [6 October] a youth exchange plan to invite some 100 young Africans a year to Japan to meet their Japanese counterparts. Speaking at the Tokyo International Conference on

African Development, Hata reaffirmed Japan's resolve to extend assistance for "self-help efforts" in Africa and outlined criteria for concrete aid measures. The two-day conference, which opened Tuesday, is cohosted by Japan and the United Nations.

Japan's aid measures, he said, will aim at fostering democratization and assisting economic reform and will be guided by an emphasis on effectiveness and efficiency. Promoting the development of human resources and a stronger focus on environmental matters to guarantee sustainable development are further yardsticks for Japanese development outlays, he said.

Japan will extend nonproject-type grant assistance totaling 650 million to 700 million dollars over the next three years, mainly to African countries which are pursuing economic reform programs, Hata said.

In its first three-year plan on nonproject grant aid from fiscal 1987 to 1989, Japan channeled some 500 million dollars to sub-Saharan Africa. The amount was increased to 600 million for fiscal 1990-1992, according to the Foreign Ministry. Japan will strengthen dialogue with recipient countries so as to be able to tailor assistance to the needs of individual countries, he said.

Hata promised support for the integration of Africa into the world economy and said Tokyo will soon present a proposal on primary products, the main source of income for most African countries, which will seek more market-oriented "new modalities of international cooperation." He also proposed holding an Asia-Africa seminar somewhere in Asia next year to respond to African countries' interest in the Asian economic-success model.

Commitment to Development Reaffirmed

*OW0610122093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1157 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—African nations and their aid donors on Wednesday [6 October] reaffirmed their joint objective of achieving sustainable development in Africa based on self-reliance and pledged to work for a new partnership in the post Cold War era.

"We declare with one voice our continued dedication to the development of Africa towards a new era of prosperity," more than 60 countries, including 48 from Africa, and a number of international organizations said in a declaration concluding the two-day Tokyo International Conference on African Development. The participants also decided to hold a follow-up conference "at the latest" before the turn of the century to evaluate progress toward the implementation of pledges made at the Tokyo conference.

While African nations pledged to pursue and further strengthen political and economic reform simultaneously, their aid donors vowed "priority support" for African initiatives to that end.

"We, the African participants, reaffirm our commitment to democratization, respect for human rights, good governance, human and social development, and economic diversification and liberalization," the declaration said.

Structural adjustment programs should be more tailored to the specific needs of a country and help to prevent adverse social consequences during the often painful adjustment process, it said.

The declaration, drafted over the last six months by a 20-member committee including six African and four donor nations, awards the private sector a major role in economic development and calls for an improved banking system and investment protection. Donor nations promised "to work to facilitate market access" to help boost African exports and trade, while African nations said they would promote regional cooperation and integration.

The declaration noted that Africa can learn to some extent from the economic success of some countries in East and Southeast Asia, which it said is rooted in political stability, a productive agricultural sector, investment in education, and export-led market policies.

Recognizing that debt and debt service pose one of the major development obstacles for impoverished African countries, donor nations, while avoiding concrete commitments, pointed to the Tokyo summit initiative proposing debt relief for the poorest highly indebted countries in Africa.

At a news conference Botswana President Ketumile Masire said the conference "greatly contributed to keep Africa on the development agenda."

African countries, in increasing competition with the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe for scarce funds following the collapse of the former communist bloc, had voiced fears of being marginalized.

Masire, who co-chaired the conference in his capacity as president of the Global Coalition for Africa (GCA), said he was satisfied that the meeting brought a commitment to address the debt issue and a better understanding for a long-term development approach. He also welcomed Japan's new interest in Africa, which many participants perceived as an attempt by Japan to enlist African support for Tokyo's bid to become a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council. He called on Tokyo not to apply too strict democratic standards but support reforming African countries while they are still fledgling democracies.

In response, Japan's top representative at the conference, Ambassador Yasushi Kurokochi, said Tokyo will link assistance to a steady democratic process, but not make the form of government, military or civilian, an issue.

In an interview Zimbabwe's Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyarira said the meeting was "a useful exchange of

views," but said very much depended on the implementation of ideas and intentions voiced in the declaration.

"The big question is if the help offered will reach the ordinary people in Africa. We hope that we can solve this problem satisfactorily," Shamuyarira said.

Legislator Chastises Hosokawa on War Remarks

OW0510132893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1224 GMT
5 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—A right-wing legislator of the opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) said Tuesday [5 October] that Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa "deserves to die" for his remarks about Japan's World War II "aggression." At a session of the House of Representatives Budget Committee, Shintaro Ishihara and another senior LDP member, Takami Eto, lashed out at Hosokawa for his comments on the war, saying they were a blasphemy against history, and demanded he retract them.

"Those indiscrete remarks without solid historical viewpoints deserve death," said Ishihara, a former transport minister.

Hosokawa refuted their criticism, saying it is important to honestly apologize to peoples who suffered greatly during the war.

Ishihara also said Japan does not need to apologize to winners of the war such as the United States, Britain and the Netherlands.

Hosokawa replied, "It is true that there are people in those countries to whom Japan inflicted unbearable sufferings."

At his debut news conference in early August after taking office as the first premier from outside the LDP in 38 years, Hosokawa said, "I perceive (World War II) was a war of aggression (on Japan's part). It was a mistaken war."

In a policy speech at the Diet in late August, Hosokawa expressed "our profound remorse and apologies for the fact that past Japanese actions, including aggression and colonial rule, caused unbearable suffering and sorrow for so many people."

Past prime ministers have acknowledged wrongdoing, but generally in response to questions, and have avoided the word "aggression."

Hosokawa Hints at Consumption Tax Hike

OW0510145093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1436 GMT
5 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa hinted Tuesday [5 October] at the possibility that his government may raise the consumption tax rate sometime in the future.

"I cannot pledge there will be no hike of the consumption tax rate under the present administration," Hosokawa said. He was responding to a question posed by Japanese Communist Party member Rikukai Sasaki at a session of the House of Representatives Budget Committee.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura supported Hosokawa's stance, saying the government does not plan to hike the 3 percent consumption tax for the fiscal 1994 budget. But Takemura said, "It does not mean the Hosokawa Cabinet will not raise (the consumption tax in the future)."

Boosting of the consumption tax has been sought by some parties and key figures within the coalition government as a measure to offset an income tax cut aimed at propping up the nation's sluggish economy. However, Sadao Yamahama, state minister in charge of political reform and a member of the Social Democratic Party (SDP), said he wants to deal with (the tax issue) "in accordance with the coalition government's agreement."

In the July general election, the SDP, as the then largest opposition party, campaigned for opposition to any moves to raise the consumption tax rate. The director general of the Management and Coordination Agency, Koshiro Ishida, who is also the chairman of the Komeito Party, said he regards a consumption tax hike as "very difficult."

Finance Minister on Tax Hike

OW0610100993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1001 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii said the government could revamp the tax system, including hiking the consumption tax if not included in the initial budget for the next fiscal year. Clarifying remarks by Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and other Cabinet ministers at the Diet, Fujii told reporters the coalition parties agreed to reform the tax system but not in the initial budget. Otherwise, the government has a "free hand" on the issue, he said.

Fujii also said there are "many things we can think of" in referring to Hosokawa's earlier remarks that an income tax cut could be considered only on the basis of legally securing a budget resource for it. Asked if that means an income tax cut would not be made until after the initial budget, Fujii repeated, "many things can be done."

Fujii also backpedaled from his recent view that "bridge bonds" to finance an income tax cut ahead of raising other taxes are deficit-covering bonds, which he strongly opposes.

"Those bonds carry collateral" unlike other "untreated" deficit-covering bonds, he said.

Speaking at the Budget Committee session, Hosokawa said he cannot pledge that the government will not raise the consumption tax over the next two or three years,

suggesting a consumption tax hike based on a written government agreement to reform the tax system. Sadao Yamahama, minister in charge of political reforms, told the committee that the parties also made an unwritten agreement not to include tax reform in the initial budget for fiscal 1994.

Finance Ministry Bureau Chiefs Want Tax Cut

OW0610065193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0604 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Business leaders believe an income tax cut is necessary to shore up the economy which has been stagnating because of unusual weather and the yen's rise, local financial bureau chiefs of the Ministry of Finance (MOF) said Wednesday [6 October]. Reporting business conditions of their respective areas, the bureau chiefs said local business leaders firmly believe that an income tax cut is necessary, a ministry official said, briefing reporters on the first day of a regular two-day gathering. However, most business leaders—70 percent, according to one bureau chief—want the tax cut to be made in line with overall tax reforms, while expressing doubt over the short-term effect, the official said.

Summing up local reports on economic conditions, the official said the Japanese economy is stagnating with the yen's sharp rise, the unusually cool summer and the long rainy season, which prevented personal consumption and corporate activities from staging a full-fledged recovery. But the bureau chiefs expect the government's two sets of economic packages, launched this year, and the Bank of Japan's credit easing to help improve the economy.

In September, the government launched a 6.2 trillion yen stimulus program, including plans to ease regulations and to pass on benefits from the yen's rise to consumers. That followed a 13.2 trillion yen package adopted in April. The central bank soon followed by cutting the official discount rate by 0.75 percentage point to an all-time low of 1.75 percent per year.

Considering widely feared labor conditions amid the prolonged economic slump, the official said serious cutbacks are unlikely since the bureau chiefs explained that companies are taking rather "mild" measures in job adjustments. Some chiefs even added that Japanese companies are more reluctant to cut jobs than to stop paying dividends. Many local companies are also citing the tight condition as chances to recruit employees that tend to seek jobs in major cities.

The impact of this year's poor rice harvest will be limited, the official said, quoting a Tohoku region chief as saying that rice accounts for only 2 percent of the region's overall production and for 20 percent of farmers' earnings. The Tohoku region in northern Japan encompasses the major rice growing areas.

On suspended bidding by leading general contractors on public works from the recent bid-rigging and bribery scandals, no major impact is observed on contracting, the official said. Executed orders are above year-earlier levels, even in the tohoku region where many scandals occurred.

Turning to the economy's brighter spots, the official said housing construction and public works remain buoyant on the stimulus packages and credit easing to underpin overall business activities. Personal consumption is relatively steady at convenience stores, consumer's cooperatives and discount stores. Sluggish sales at large retailers, led by department stores, are largely limited to Tokyo and other major cities.

Corporate inventory cutbacks have run their course, but production and capital investment remain stagnant due to still-weak demand, the official said. He added that local chiefs expect corporate earnings to recover, primarily in the manufacturing sector in the second half of the current fiscal year ending March 31.

Corporate Executives Head Opposes Higher Tax

OW0510092193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0827 GMT
5 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—The head of an influential business organization expressed opposition Tuesday [5 October] to a reported plan to raise the consumption tax rate to 10 percent from the present 3.0 percent. Masaru Hayami, leader of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives (Keizai Doyukai), said it is not natural to raise the rate to 10 percent in one step. Hayami also called on the government to prepare for the liberalization of Japan's rice market in order to cooperate for a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of world trade talks. The issue has to be studied separately from a government decision to import rice on an emergency basis to make up for a supply shortage due to a poor harvest this year, he said. Japan will suffer a severe blow if the trade negotiations fail to reach accord by the deadline set for December 15 this year.

Government To Sell Imported Rice in Nov

OW0610082493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0738 GMT
6 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—The government will sell imported Thai rice to Japanese processed food makers as early as November to help them meet strong food demand during the coming New Year holiday season, Food Agency officials said Wednesday [6 October]. The government plans to import 133,000 tons of rice from Thailand before the end of the year as part of emergency imports to make up for the poor rice harvest stemming from this summer's bad weather. The first shipment of Thai rice, amounting to several thousand tons, is expected to arrive in Japan early next month, the officials said. With early rice imports from

Thailand, the government plans to use Japanese rice, normally reserved for processed food, as staple food, the officials said.

The Food Agency and the National Federation of Agricultural Cooperative Associations agreed Tuesday that Japanese rice be sold to processed food makers in October and November, and both Japanese and imported rice be sold in December. They also agreed that imported rice be sold in November, if imports go smoothly.

Government To Reassess Optimum Rice Stock Level

OW0510114693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1005 GMT
5 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—Farm Minister Eiji Hata told the Diet on Tuesday [5 October] the government will review the optimum level of rice stock to cope with poor crops in the future. Agricultural organizations have demanded the government increase the volume of rice stock from one million tons to two million tons. The groups contend that the government could have avoided emergency imports of rice this year had it maintained the volume of rice in stock at a higher level. Government sources, however, said it would be difficult to increase the stock because of warehousing charges. Farmers also are reluctant to sell rice at government-set prices which are below market prices, they said.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries announced last week Japan will import about 1.1 million tons of rice to make up for the shortage resulting from a very bad harvest.

Rice Harvest Index Predicted To Reach 20's

OW0510114593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1006 GMT
5 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—The rice harvest index could drop into the 20 level in Aomori Prefecture this rice year due to large-scale damage done by cool weather in the Pacific coast regions, including the city of Aomori, the prefectural government said Tuesday [5 October]. The agricultural division of the prefecture said the index stood at 32 against 100 for the normal year as of September 15. But according to a survey conducted on September 30, the index is likely to fall below 30. The survey showed the maturation rate for a local rice brand, called Mutsu-Homare, was 2.5 percent in Aomori city and other coastal regions in the county of East Tsugaru, against the average of 76.0 percent the previous year, while the rate for Hatsu-Kogane, another local brand, was only 0.2 percent against last year's 74.3 percent.

LDP Urges Statement on Yeltsin Clampdown

OW0610073193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0716 GMT
6 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Japan's main opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) urged the Foreign

Ministry on Wednesday [6 October] to express regret to Russian President Boris Yeltsin over his clampdown on his opponents in the Russian parliament, LDP officials said. The LDP's Foreign Affairs Panel called Foreign Ministry officials to its Wednesday session and filed the request, the officials said.

Yeltsin is scheduled to visit Japan from next Monday to Wednesday for talks with Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa. He sent tanks against the Russian parliament building in Moscow earlier this week to crush anti-Yeltsin members of the Supreme Soviet, claiming they had launched an uprising. More than 100 people were reported dead in the clash.

At the panel session, one LDP parliamentarian urged the government to call off Yeltsin's visit, saying Japan cannot receive a president who bombarded the parliament of his country, the officials said. Another legislator was quoted as saying Japan should not extend further assistance to Russia. Yet another LDP lawmaker questioned the United States' response, saying that Washington reacted differently to similar actions by Russia and China.

The United States imposed economic sanctions after the 1989 Tiananmen Square crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators, while this time, President Bill Clinton expressed support for Yeltsin.

Foreign Ministry officials told the LDP panel that, in Washington's view, China's military began the Tiananmen Square assault but the Russian parliament started the Moscow unrest.

LDP Announces Package of Political Reform Bills

OW0510043793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0406 GMT
5 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—The opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) on Tuesday officially announced a proposed package of five political reform bills which center on the introduction of a combination of 300 single-seat constituencies and 171 seats based on proportional representation in the House of Representatives, party officials said. The LDP decision came two weeks after the coalition government of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa gave the go-ahead for a set of government-sponsored political reform bills aimed at rooting out the corruption endemic in Japanese politics. The LDP will submit its package of bills to the Diet as early as possible, the officials said.

Under the LDP proposals, the current 511 lower house seats would be reduced by 41 to 471, resulting in a composition of 300 single-seat constituencies and 171 seats decided by proportional representation.

LDP Secretary General Yoshiro Mori said the proposed reduction in lower house seats, the planned single-seat

constituencies, and the division of seats between single-seat constituencies and proportional representation, are the most important features of the LDP package.

Previous government bills had called for the replacement of multiseat constituencies in the lower house with a system combining 250 directly elected seats, one per constituency, and 250 seats selected by proportional representation. Concerning methods of ballot casting, the LDP officials said voters would mark a single ballot card on which the names both of parties and candidates were printed.

In contrast to the LDP's proposed one-sheet ballot method, the government-proposed bills call for two separate ballots to be cast, one for an individual candidate, in a single-seat electorate, and the other for a party, in a countrywide proportional representation election.

In reference to proportional representation, the LDP package of bills calls for parties to select candidates from their lists, in each of the nation's 47 prefectures, after election administration committees have calculated the number of votes cast in favor of different parties in individual prefectures.

Under the LDP proposal, a ban would remain in place against election runners conducting door-to-door canvassing of voters. Concerning political donations, the LDP package would allow private firms to make donations to the political fund-raising organizations of individual politicians. Conversely, the government-proposed bills would ban such donations.

Under the LDP bills, state coffers would fund political parties with subsidies totalling approximately 30 billion yen, or 250 yen per citizen. The government's bills, meanwhile, call for state subsidies of 41.4 billion yen, or 335 yen per citizen.

Foreigners Seeking Bargains on Stock Market

OW0510092093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0828 GMT
5 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—Foreign buyers seeking bargains on the Japanese stock market boosted their net purchases to 3,089 million dollars in August from 299 million dollars in July, the Finance Ministry said Tuesday [5 October]. Officials said expectations over government pump-priming packages including a comprehensive deregulation program also seem to have contributed to attracting foreigners to Japanese stocks. Foreign investors acquired shares worth 14,057 million dollars, while selling 10,968 million dollars. The benchmark 225-issue Nikkei Index on the Tokyo stock market moved around 21,000-23,000 during the month. But with respect to Japanese Government bonds, foreign investors sold more than they bought as they took advantage of higher Japanese bond prices, or otherwise they tried to make profits in light of the yen's appreciation, the officials said.

The investors sold 17,091 million dollars against a purchase of 14,248 million dollars. Net sales was 2,843 million dollars. Overall, the foreigners ended up acquiring a net 246 million dollars of Japanese securities.

Meanwhile, Japanese investors were active in buying overseas stocks due to their solid performance in August, Finance Ministry officials said, in spite of currency exchange rate risks. Net purchases reached 1,943 million dollars, the largest this year, through acquisitions worth 4,806 million dollars and sales of 2,863 million dollars. Also, firm bond prices abroad sparked the appetite of Japanese investors, ballooning net acquisitions of foreign government bonds to 3,382 million dollars after purchases of 124,046 million dollars and sales of 120,664 million dollars.

Ministry officials said the investors seems to have been rather bearish about Canadian and U.S. bonds but were interested in European bonds in the wake of lower interest rates there. As a result, Japanese investors bought 5,325 million dollars more of foreign securities than they sold in August.

Think Tanks Issue Economic Trend Forecasts

DKB Institute's Forecast

OW0610121993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1142 GMT
6 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—A commercial bank-affiliated think tank forecast Wednesday [6 October] that Japan's economy in fiscal 1993 will score the "minus" growth since the first global oil crisis in the early 1970s. The DKB Research Institute, run by Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank, predicted the economy will shrink 0.1 percent in real terms in the year ending next March 31 because of sluggish personal spending. The institute said it is the first private think tank to forecast a decline in the nation's gross national product. The previous economic shrinkage was recorded in fiscal 1974 following the Arab oil embargo in late 1973. The institute also cited bad weather and the steep appreciation of the Japanese yen as adverse factors. It said personal consumption is expected to grow a mild 0.4 percent in fiscal 1993 while capital investment by corporations is estimated to drop 8.8 percent.

In June, the institute projected a 1.9 percent growth for fiscal 1993 on grounds of a 2.1 percent rise in consumer spending against a 2.6 percent decline in corporate investment. The institute forecast a zero growth in fiscal 1994 if the government takes no incentive measures. The economy will grow 1.1 percent in the year if income tax cuts worth 5 trillion yen are implemented and the appropriation of public works projects is increased by 3 trillion yen, it said.

Nikko Securities' Forecast

OW0610093693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0907 GMT
6 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—A private think tank said Wednesday [6 October] it has revised downward its forecast for Japan's economic growth in fiscal 1993 and 1994 because of the strong yen and sluggish consumer spending. The Nikko Research Center, run by Nikko Securities Co., said the growth rates for the two years now are forecast at 0.2 percent and 1.3 percent, down from 1.7 percent and 3.2 percent projected in July.

The center also cited restraint on corporate capital investment resulting from the yen's steep appreciation against the dollar and widespread employment adjustments as adverse factors. The company warned that the domestic economy will suffer "minus" growth in fiscal 1994 for the second time in postwar Japan unless additional pump-priming measures worth 5 trillion yen and income tax cuts amounting to 4 trillion yen are implemented.

Daiwa Institute's Assessment

OW0510092393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0830 GMT
5 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—A private think tank said Tuesday [5 October] it has revised downward its forecast for growth of Japan's gross national product (GNP) in fiscal 1993 due to the yen's steep appreciation and bad weather. The Daiwa Institute of Research, affiliated with Daiwa Securities Co., predicted the net growth rate for the year ending next March 31 at 0.2 percent, down from 2.6 percent projected in April. The institute also cited a delay in public works projects due to payoff scandals involving major general contractors and sluggish capital investment as adverse factors.

Even if a large-scale income tax cut totaling 5 trillion yen is carried out, real GNP growth rate for the current fiscal year will be about 1.5 percent, it said. The institute urged the government to increase the public works budget for fiscal 1994 by about 6 trillion yen from the present projection and switch emphasis to information-related areas to overcome the economic slowdown.

Private Banker Says Economy at Turning Point

OW0510085593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0758 GMT
5 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—The nation's economy is now at the crossroads of whether or not it will slip into a double-dip recession, a banking industry leader said Tuesday [5 October]. Tadashi Okuda, chairman of the Federation of Bankers' Associations of Japan, said that unabated pressure for a stronger yen due to Japan's massive trade surplus and corporate moves toward cutting jobs pose problems to the economy. Okuda, also president of Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank, was speaking at a regular press conference in the capacity of chairman of

the federation. He said an income tax cut is an option to stimulate the economy, but added that the government should give due consideration before carrying it out under the framework of overall tax reform.

Okuda said there is not any move to keep lending rates unchanged at least at his bank, and noted that overall bank lending rates nationwide have fallen enough following the latest reduction in the Bank of Japan's official discount rate to a record low 1.75 percent.

1992 Wages Show Smallest Increase in 34 Years

*OW0610093593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0858 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Wages for salaried workers in Japan last year posted the smallest year-on-year increase in 34 years at 1.9 percent, the National Tax Administration Agency said in a report released Wednesday [6 October]. It was the smallest since the 0.8 percent recorded in 1958 in the midst of the so-called "bottom of the pot economy," the report said.

Average annual wages for a worker in the private sector in 1992 was 4.55 million yen, an increase of 1.9 percent over the previous year, it said. In the midst of Japan's worst postwar recession, wages increased by 0.8 percent in 1958, which has become known as the "nabezoku keiki" as the economy appeared to hit the bottom of the pot. The total of wages recorded in 1992 was 187,658.8 billion yen, about 4.2 percent over the previous year but the smallest increase since 1989, reflecting the economy's persistent sluggishness, the agency reported.

Meanwhile, as wages grew only gradually, the tax burden shouldered by workers increased by 6.53 percent without the realization of an income tax cut. It was the third straight year that the tax burden has shown an increase and neared the 6.55 percent rate of increase in the tax burden recorded in 1957, the agency reported.

According to the agency's survey, the number of wage earners in private firms, including part-time workers, increased by 2.2 percent to 41.25 million—26.58 million men and 14.67 million women. Men made an average of 5.58 million yen in 1992, up 2.0 percent from the previous year, while women earned an average of 2.69 million yen, an increase of 2.4 percent, the agency reported. For the average wage of 4.55 million yen, 3.61 million was in salary and allowances and 940,000 yen was in bonuses.

Ninety percent of the wage earners, or about 37.13 million people, paid income taxes totaling 11,879.3 billion yen, the report said. Wage earners in the finance and insurance industry earned the highest average wages of 5.55 million yen, followed by employees of the transportation and communications public service industry, who earned an average of 5.37 million yen. Workers in agriculture, forestry, fisheries and mining recorded the lowest average of 3.47 million yen.

Of all the wage earners, those who paid income taxes came to 37.14 million with the amount of income taxes paid totaling 11,879.3 billion yen. An average income taxpayer makes 4.90 million yen, has a wife and two children. After taking out taxes, health insurance, and increases in the cost of living, the tax payer showed a real growth in earning power of only 0.1 percent over the previous year.

More Firms Now Operating on 5-Day Work Week

*OW0510095493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0825 GMT
5 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—The number of Japanese companies operating partly under a five-day workweek system in 1992 increased 7.0 percentage points over the previous year to 85.2 percent, the Labor Ministry reported Tuesday [5 October]. The ministry said the report was based on a poll on 5,300 firms with 30 employees or more, with 92 percent responding. The survey showed that the rate for major enterprises with 1,000 workers or more dropped 0.3 point to 97.8 percent, but gained 9.1 points to 82.5 percent among small firms with 30 to 99 workers, the ministry said. It said 19.5 percent of companies worked five days every week, up 5.0 points over the year before. Workers had an average 16.1 paid holidays per year, up 0.4 point over the previous year, the ministry said. The number of paid holidays taken increased 0.4 day to nine days, the ministry said.

North Korea

Further Reportage on Tangun Tomb Controversy

Kim Il-song Visits Tomb

*SK0610110693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1017
GMT 6 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 6 (KCNA)—The Korea Cultural Relics Studio is actively promoting the work of restoring relics regarded as national treasures to their original state.

The artists have started the work of representing the history of the founding of the state by Wang Kon who founded Koryo Dynasty (918-1392), the first unified state of Korea, in relics and remains to show it in the form of a true story. The portrait of Wang Kon, the founder of Koryo, remains undamaged. But the portraits of the civilian officials and military officers who took part in the founding of the unified state as his assistants and the relics of those days remain only in documentary records and fragments.

The artists are creating the portraits and relics of the famous generals and civilian officials who were assistants of Wang Kon on the basis of the portrait of Wang Kon and the documentary records and fragments unearthed.

The tomb of Ko Chu-mong (King Tongmyong) who founded the Koguryo Dynasty (277 B.C.-668 A.D.), which was a power in the east with a history of 1,000 years was successfully restored to its original state by the efforts of the artists of the studio on the principle of historicism to show well the phases of the times of Koguryo.

According to data available, the studio has restored 29 Buddha's pictures, 10 odd Buddhist figures and more than 550 sculptures during the past three years. These things are now preserved as national treasures at Chongnung temple of the tomb of King Tongmyong which was reconstructed, the Kwangbop temple in Mt. Taesong and historic buildings in Kaesong and Mt. Kumgang and Mt. Myohyang.

The great leader President Kim Il-song, visiting the historic buildings, expressed deep satisfaction over the successful application of the principle of historicism to Buddha's pictures, ornamental backgrounds of Buddha's images, Buddhist figures and other works made by the artists.

Inspecting the tomb of Tangun situated in Kangdong County on September 27, President Kim Il-song instructed that cultural relics should be excavated and preserved well as the historical sites and relics associated with the resourcefulness and talents of our ancestors are of great importance in boosting the national pride and patriotism of people.

The Korea Cultural Relics Studio was founded in March 1990 according to the plan of President Kim Il-song to hand down through generations the resourcefulness and talent of the Korean people who have created a 5,000 years long history and culture and display the pride and dignity of the nation.

The studio consisting of a sculpture room, a historical picture room, a Korean picture room, a craftwork room, etc. is entrusted with the task to represent the relics since Kochoson (Ancient Korea) on the basis of historical facts.

A folding screen "Dances of Folk Games in Four Seasons" and a large Buddhist figure 4.2 metres high which have been registered as national masterpieces were also created by the artists of the studio.

NODONG SINMUN Article Cited

SK0410104893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1009
GMT 4 Oct 93

[“NODONG SINMUN Calls For Glorifying 5,000 Years Long National History”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 4 (KCNA)—The Korean people, deeply conscious of the mission of the nation, must make strenuous efforts to add shine to the long history of our nation under the wise guidance of the party and the leader and thus demonstrate the wisdom

and honor of the Korean nation, stresses NODONG SINMUN in an editorial today.

Archaeologists of the Academy of Social Sciences recently excavated the tomb of Tangun and made public its results, proving that Tangun was not a mythical and legendary character but a real person and that he chose Pyongyang as the capital and founded Korea, or ancient Korea (Kojoson), the first state in the East 5,000 years ago. As a result, the history of the Korean nation spanning 50 centuries and its homogeneity have been eloquently proved. This is a signal event in the history of the Korean nation and its great victory.

The editorial quotes the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as saying:

“Our people is a homogeneous nation that has lived in the same territory from ancient times with the same blood and with the same language and culture and a resourceful nation with a history of fifty centuries and fine culture and traditions.”

The editorial notes:

It is entirely because the great leader President Kim Il-song has wisely directed the work of establishing chuche in studying the history of the nation that the Korean nation has restored the history of Korea founded by Tangun and its 5,000 years long history and culture.

Giving instructions to excavate the tomb of Tangun, he said that if the history of the Korean nation was to be defined from the chuche-based stand, Tangun and the history of Kojoson totally stamped out by the Japanese imperialists in the past must be corrected.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il wisely guided historians to discard the flunkeyist and national nihilistic method of historical studies and define and systematize the long history of the Korean nation on the basis of the chuche-based view of history.

Indeed, the achievements in the excavation of the tomb of Tangun is a great victory of the Korean nation in smashing all the sophism of the flunkeyists and historians serving the Japanese imperialists who totally twisted and stamped out the history of Kojoson and in proving it on the basis of chuche.

It has been made clear that Pyongyang blessed with beautiful mountains and rivers which Tangun chose as the capital after founding Kojoson is one of the cradles of mankind, the cradle of the Korean nation and the centre of the formation of the state of the Korean nation and its development. Thus, Pyongyang has taken a definite position as the capital of the socialist homeland and as an important cradle of human history and culture.

The history of Tangun's Korea will be handed down through generations by the Korean people with great national pride. We, proud of being members of the Korean nation with a long history and homogeneity, must ardently love the country and the nation and strive

hard to glorify the history of the nation. All the Korean people, whether they be in the North, South or overseas, are the descendants of Tangun and a homogeneous nation of the same blood. All the Koreans who are concerned over the destiny of the nation must unite under the banner of great national unity, irrespective of the political view, religious belief and property status, giving priority to the homogeneity of the blood, drive out outside forces and promote national reunification. The Korean people, wherever they may be or whatever they may do, must keep the spirit of the Korean nation and make a tangible contribution to the noble cause of national reunification with ardent patriotism.

Academician Writes About Tomb

*SK0510231693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1519
GMT 5 Oct 93*

[“Ours is Single Nation With 5,000 Years of History”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 5 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today runs an article contributed by Prof. and Dr. Ho Chong-ho, a room chief of the History Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences, who is a corresponding member of the academy, on the recent disinterment of the Tomb of Tangun in Pyongyang.

The article says:

Our nation, since the founding of Kojoson (ancient Korea), was known as the “Pakdal nation”, or the “Paedal nation”, with Tangun as its father, and waged a struggle to transform nature and society, succeeding a single blood for long 5,000 years.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has said: “Ours is a single nation with 5,000 years of history; it is a valorous, ambitious nation that has been vigorously fighting against foreign invaders and successive reactionary rulers from olden times; and it is a talented nation that has contributed greatly to mankind’s development of science and culture.”

The results on the [word indistinct] of the Tomb of Tangun and the remains recently excavated by the Archaeological Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences proved that Tangun is not a mythical being but was a real person. Powerful research organs examined the remains found in the Tomb of Tangun 24 and 30 times respectively by latest date assessment apparatuses of different types to get the same figure—5,011 years. This eloquently proves that the remains are bones of Tangun and, accordingly, the history of Tangun’s Korea began from 5,000 years ago.

Documentary records also say that Tangun existed actually. “Weishu,” a Chinese book of history known to have been compiled in the third century A.D. states that a man named Tangun Wang Kom 2,000 years ago chose Asadal as the capital and founded a state and named it Choson (Korea). Our story books “Ancient Records,”

“History of Three Dynasties” and “Records of Poems About Emperors,” described Tangun as a mythical person and mystically depicted the course of building the nation by Tangun, but the kernels of them depict human activities.

In the past Tangun was regarded as a mythical character and the history of Tangun’s Korea as a fiction and the history of Kojoson, too, was wrongly explained. This was chiefly related to the distortion and obliteration of the history of Tangun’s Korea by the Japanese imperialists and their paid historians.

The achievements in the excavation of the Tomb of Tangun under the wise guidance of the great leader and the dear leader signify an end to the past distorted view of Tangun and the restoration of the history of Tangun’s Korea and the fifty century long history and a firm foundation for scientifically systematizing the ancient history of our country as a whole.

Quite rare in the world is a nation which entered the era of civilization after founding a state so early as the Korean nation. The early 30th century B.C., when the ancient Korea was established was an era where many regions of different continents of the world were still theatres of beasts of prey or places where groups of primitive people were living primitive life in a pre-state savage conditions. The ancient Rome, which is said to have been a developed slave-owner state entered the period of “legendary imperial period” in the 8th century B.C.

Even if the mythical era in the history of Japan is made a period of a state, it is two thousand and several hundred years shorter than our history. However desperately the reactionary historians of Japan may try to obliterate the history of Tangun’s Korea and move up the history of their country, it is of no avail.

Pyongyang is one of the cradles of humanity and the cradle of our nation and the place which its father chose as the capital and the cradle of the first state. Pyongyang and its surrounding are the native place of our fellow countrymen which prospered from the early period.

The achievements in the excavation of the Tomb of Tangun convincingly prove that our nation is descendants of Tangun and it is a single nation which has stoutly lived for 5,000 years since Tangun.

As Tangun has been identified as the founder of Kojoson and Tangun’s Korea is recognized as the first state in the national history, it is clearly proven that our nation formed a solid collective of a nation as his descendants and has reached today, unwaveringly defending the national character, succeeding the orthodoxy of the nation from Kojoson to Koguryo, to Palhae, and to Koryo.

Daily Cited on 10-Point Program for Unity

*SK0610111993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1037
GMT 6 Oct 93*

[“Charter of Great Unity Embodying Benevolent, Magnanimous Politics”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 6 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries an article contributed by Kim Yong-ho, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party, under the headline “Charter of Great Unity Embodying Benevolent, Magnanimous Politics”.

The article says:

The 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation is a grand banner of great national unity that embodies the benevolent, magnanimous politics of respected President Kim Il-song.

His politics is a model of benevolent, magnanimous politics that opens the road of rebirth for those who had been opposed to communism or guilty against the nation in the past, let alone those who have contributed to the national reconciliation and unity and the country's reunification, and that enables the entire nation to turn out in the nationwide struggle for reunification by broadening the scope of great unity of the nation.

The 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation stipulates that the entire nation in the North and South and overseas should join hands on the road to national reunification, without rejecting each other because of differences in ideals and principles. It is noted in the programme that both before reunification and after it they should recognize state ownership, cooperative ownership and private ownership and protect the capital and property of individuals and organizations, as well as all interests concerned with foreign capital, recognize the social reputation and qualifications of individuals and continue to guarantee the benefits granted to people who have performed meritorious services.

This is an application of the noble benevolent, magnanimous politics of the respected leader President Kim Il-song who is intending to put on the road to great national unity even those who are hesitating to go beyond the difference of ideologies and systems, or reluctant to take the road of reunification out of concern for their vested rights and property.

The 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation, in particular, notes that special favours should be granted to those who have performed exploits for the sake of the great unity of the nation and the reunification of the country, to patriotic martyrs and to their descendants and if those who had turned their back on the nation in the past return to the patriotic road, repent of their past, they should be dealt with leniently and assessed fairly, according to the contributions they have made to the cause of national reunification.

Indeed, the benevolent, magnanimous politics of respected President Kim Il-song is a great politics of boldly trusting and embracing the people who aspire after reunification through alliance with communism and with the North but even those who had been opposed to communism and reunification in the past if they now join in the patriotic struggle for national unity and the Reunification of the country, sincerely remorseful of their past.

Daily Calls for ‘National Independence’

*SK0410110493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1015
GMT 4 Oct 93*

[“Reunification Is Patriotism and Division Is Treachery”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 4 (KCNA)—The continued division of the territory and the nation for nearly half a century has brought unbearable national distress to the Korean people and the struggle for national reunification in our country is a struggle between patriots and traitors, declares NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today.

The article says:

The reunification of Korea is a matter of rejoining the artificially cut blood vessels of the nation and achieving independence, the life and soul of the nation, throughout the country.

Reunification is patriotism and division is treachery because reunification means rejoining the severed blood vessels of the nation and achieving the independence of the nation on a nationwide scale, whereas division means cutting off the nation's blood vessels for good and leaving a half of the land of the country under the domination of foreign forces.

The national question is, in essence, a matter of achieving and defending the independence of the nation. To do so is the highest criterion of patriotism and to abandon independence of the nation is worst treachery.

The South Korean treacherous forces are clinging to divisive manoeuvres, dead set against our fair and realistic proposals for national reunification.

In order to correct the present situation of South Korea, national independence must be established by frustrating the treacherous acts of the splittists and ending the domination of outside forces.

Reunification is patriotism and division is treachery next because reunification makes it possible to enlist and utilize uniformly all the resources of the whole territory and the wisdom and talent of the entire people for the prosperity of the country and the happiness of the people, whereas division hinders a uniform development of the nation by offering natural resources and the people to foreign forces in a half of the country.

Koreans who are concerned over the future of the country and nation must all oppose the moves of the splittist forces within and without for the perpetuation of national division and achieve national reunification from the stand of national independence and thus do good things which will be conveyed down through generations to come.

ROK Real Name System Called 'Last Resort'

*SK0610050693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0455
GMT 6 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 6 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities recently announced "follow-up steps" to ease the "system requiring real names in financial depositing" which they had proclaimed in August.

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today says this reveals the "limit of the purposeless reforms" of the "civilian government" and the "steps" are, in actuality, their last resort.

The analyst notes:

In the "follow-up steps" they eased even the noncommittal "system requiring real names in financial depositing," freeing the illegal wealth hoarders possessed of a large sum of black money from the investigation into its source and taxation. This means that they divested the "system" of its kernel.

It is for the eradication of illicit fortune-making by bureaucrats and big businesses that the South Korean people had long urged the "system." But the South Korean rulers eased even the noncommittal regulations of the "system" which they had proclaimed. This is a mockery of the dissident forces and the people who strongly called for "financial depositing in real name."

What is more serious is that the "follow-up steps" are aimed at protecting those who gain unearned income and business tycoons who have illegally amassed fortunes through financial dealings without using their real names and the ruling quarters in league with them. The present ruler intends to get "political funds" from the privileged circles and big businesses who have grown corpulent through irregularities in return for protecting them. This is the main purpose of the "follow-up steps" and herein lies their reactionary nature.

Such a situation of the "system requiring real names in financial depositing" which the South Korean rulers had advertised as the "most essential reform" is enough to show what the other "reforms" are like.

Reception for PRC Founding Anniversary Held

*SK0410095193 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 2300 GMT 27 Sep 93*

[Text] The Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the Central Committee of the Korea-China Friendship Association arranged a reception at

the People's Palace of Culture on 27 September on the occasion of the 44th founding of the PRC.

Invited to the reception were Qiao Zonghuai, PRC Ambassador to our country, embassy officials, and Chinese guests staying in our country.

Present at the reception were Chong Chun-ki, chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries; Chi Chae-yong, deputy director of a department of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK]; Vice Foreign Minister Cho Kyu-il; Yi Song-ok, vice chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries; Kim Chong-ho, vice minister of culture and arts; Chon Yon-ok, vice chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and vice chairman of the Central Committee of the Korea-China Friendship Association; Sin An-pang, vice chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administrative and Economic Committee; Pak Sung-won, lieutenant general of the Korean People's Army; and other functionaries concerned.

Chairman Chong Chun-ki made a speech at the reception. He said that the victory of the people's revolution in China and the foundation of the PRC on 1 October, 1949, were the great gains won by the Chinese people through the protracted and arduous yet glorious struggle and an epochal event which opened a broad road for the building of a new life in China.

"Since the foundation of the PRC 44 years ago, the Chinese people have made great achievements in the socialist construction by highly displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and working hard under the leadership of the Communist Party of China [CPC]. The Chinese people have also set up a new socialist China on the vast land of China," he said.

He said that the Korean people wish the fraternal Chinese people greater success in their efforts to achieve socio-political stability, accelerate the modernization of the country and build socialism with Chinese characteristics by upholding the tasks put forth at the 14th congress of the CPC.

He expressed support and solidarity with the party, government, and people of China in the efforts to realize the reunification of the country according to the policy of one country, two systems without outside interference.

"The Korea-China friendship has been forged and fostered by the great leader and the dear leader of our people together with the Chinese leaders," he said. "The traditional Korea-China friendship is now developing on good terms although the international situation is complex," he added.

"We believe that the traditional Korea-China friendship which was forged in the struggle for the common cause

and stood historical trials will continue to strengthen and develop by the joint efforts of the two peoples," he concluded.

Chinese Ambassador Qiao Zonghuai spoke next. He said that at the time when the national day of China is being celebrated with pleasure, the Korean people, under the leadership of their great leader Comrade President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il and the WPK, have made great achievements in the socialist construction under the banner of the three revolutions—ideological, technical and cultural—by constantly adhering to the road of socialism and displaying the revolutionary spirit of independence, sovereignty, and self-reliance.

He said the Korean people are vigorously struggling to implement all of the combatant tasks set forth by the party, to highly improve the livelihood of the people in a short period, and to effect new upsurges in overall economic construction.

"We are pleased over the brilliant achievements made by the fraternal Korean people. We wish the Korean people greater success in their struggle in the future," he added.

He pointed out that realizing the independent and peaceful reunification of the country is unanimous desire of the entire Korean people and that the Korean party and government have made strenuous efforts for this under the leadership of Comrade President Kim Il-song.

Noting that the 10-point program of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country advanced by Comrade President Kim Il-song is evoking great repercussions among peoples of different countries, the ambassador said: "The Chinese people have consistently supported the Korean people's just cause of the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and will as ever continue to actively support the party and government of Korea in all their efforts to relax the situation of the Korean peninsula."

"The Sino-Korean friendship is based on a solid foundation as it was established and nursed by Comrade President Mao Zedong and Comrade Premier Zhou Enlai and Comrade President Kim Il-song," he said, and stressed: "The friendship has steadily strengthened and developed under the care of the party and state leaders of the two countries even in a great change of the international situation. This fact shows this friendship has strong vitality."

The Chinese ambassador stressed: "We are firmly convinced the Sino-Korean friendship taking its roots deep in the minds of the two peoples will surely be handed down through generations and will shine for ever."

The participants in the meeting toasted to the long life and good health of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and the Chinese leaders, including the respected Comrade Jiang Zemin.

Daily Terms Japan Deterrent to Peace

SK0110104793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1036
GMT 1 Oct 93

[*"Japan Should Act in Keeping With People's Desire for Peace"*—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 1 (KCNA)—Japan's nuclear armament will lead to her self-destruction, says NODONG SINMUN today in a by-lined article. The chief obstacle to the denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula at present is Japan, the article says, and continues:

Japan is stockpiling a large amount of plutonium in the hope of becoming a nuclear power. Her nuclear technology and development of means of delivery have reached a world's level. It is clear to everyone that Japan's nuclear weapons will be aimed at Korea as the main operational theatre of the Japan "self-defence forces" is the Korean peninsula.

The foreign nuclear bases and nuclear arms in Japan, too, pose a constant nuclear threat to the Korean peninsula. The arrows of Japan-based means of nuclear strike are mostly directed against Korea following the end of the East-West confrontation.

Japan, now ready for an emergency mobilisation in a "contingency" on the Korean peninsula, is getting all the more over-heated with her hostile policy aimed at isolating and stifling the DPRK, crying for the establishment of a "theatre missile defence system" with the United States against the DPRK.

Japan's nuclear armament must not be allowed for the denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula and the removal of the source of nuclear threat.

Clearing Korea of nuclear threat means removing a dangerous spot of nuclear conflict in the vicinity of Japan, and this is beneficial to peace in Japan and security in Asia.

Japan keeps open the door for troops dispatch overseas under the pretext of "international contribution" and is making haste with preparations to become a military power and nuclear armament. This poses a big threat to the independence and security of Asian countries and to peace in this region.

Japan should act in keeping with the desire of the Japanese and world people to live in a world free from nuclear weapons and nuclear war.

Cites Japan as Nuclear Threat

SK0510111493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1004
GMT 5 Oct 93

[*"Japan's Nuclear Armament Must Be Checked"*—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 5 (KCNA)—The peaceloving people in Asia and the rest of the world should heighten vigilance against the moves of the Japanese reactionary circles to convert Japan into a nuclear power and should intensify their fight to check them, urges NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today.

The article says:

The Japanese authorities including the prime minister now intend to divert elsewhere the attention of the international community from Japan and step up nuclear armament by misleading public opinion with outcries over "nuclear arms development" and "nuclear arms programme" of the DPRK.

It is the wild ambition of the Japanese reactionary circles to turn the country into a nuclear power, increase Japan's military influence and play a dominant role in the international arena. If Japan becomes a nuclear power, its Armed Forces will grow stronger beyond comparison and this will no doubt fan the militarist ambition of the Japanese reactionary circles and their fervor of overseas expansion.

The militarist forces of Japan foolishly think that only when they have a "nuclear stick" can they make other countries obedient to them and freely handle the world's affairs. Therefore, if Japan becomes a nuclear power, the peoples in Asia and the rest of the world will face nuclear threat and aggression from Japan.

If Japan becomes a nuclear power, the nuclear arsenals in the Far East will be enlarged that much and no one can predict when they might explode. Under this situation, people cannot be at rest and peace would be exposed to a grave threat. In the past, the Japanese forces with conventional arms invaded the continent and unleashed the Pacific War. If Japan is equipped with nuclear arms, it will no doubt run riot, swollen-headed, take the road of reckless war again and plunge mankind into a terrible nuclear scourge.

If Japan continues nuclear power buildup, other countries, feeling threatened, will take countermeasures. This will cause a new nuclear arms race and the international situation will return to the original point of nuclear confrontation and Cold War.

Japan must never be allowed to become a new nuclear power. The conversion of Japan into a nuclear power will lead her to self-destruction.

Magazine on 'Kimilsongism' Published in Japan

SK0110152093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1503
GMT 1 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 1 (KCNA)—The Japanese Society for the Study of Kimilsongism published the magazine "Study of Kimilsongism" No 66.

It carries the full texts of the "10-Point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation for the Reunification of the Country", an immortal classical work of the great leader President Kim Il-song and "Abuses of Socialism are Intolerable", an immortal classical work of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

It also introduces a report by Kenichi Ogami at the 19th meeting of the National Committee of the Japanese Society for the Study of Kimilsongism.

Noting that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is an outstanding leader who is shaping out the 21st century, the reporter called for pushing ahead with the dissemination and study of the chuche idea with activities to learn from him as the main.

The magazine edits a keynote report at the 28th National Scientific Seminar on the Chuche Idea in Japan, articles entitled "Let Us Study Recent Works of Comrade Kim Chong-il" and "Principle of Korea's Development As Future of the Third World" and travelogues and notes.

Japan Urged To Compensate 'Comfort Women'

SK0110110093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1012
GMT 1 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 1 (KCNA)—Voices are ringing out from different circles of South Korea urging the Japanese authorities to make an apology and compensation for the shocking atrocities committed by the Japanese imperialists against Korean women in the past.

The Council for Measures on the Volunteers Corps Issue, consisting of 19 organizations in South Korea including the Federation of Women's Organizations, said in a statement that the dispatch of a "delegation" by the Japanese Government authorities to South Korea allegedly for "hearing on testimonies of victims" was intended to cover up and curtail the truth behind the crimes against the "comfort women for the Army", not to probe the truth behind it.

They urged the South Korean authorities to make no compromise with the Japanese authorities.

The Committee for Measures on the Japanese Affairs under the south side headquarters for the promotion of the Pan-National Rally, in a declaration to the nation published in the name of 815 patriotic figures on the occasion of the August 15 liberation, demanded the Japanese Government to make public a full story of the "comfort women for the Army" and compensate for them and halt Japan's nuclear arming as a war criminal state.

Some 100 people staged a demonstration in front of the Japanese Embassy in Seoul on August 11 urging the Japanese Government to pay compensations to the Korean women who had been drafted as "comfort women for the Army" by the Japanese imperialists.

The protesters expressed resentment at the decision of the South Korean authorities not to claim compensation from the Japanese Government concerning the "comfort women" issue and demanded an immediate withdrawal of the "decision".

Japan, ROK Urged To Examine Kidnapping Case

*SK0410044393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0433
GMT 4 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 4 (KCNA)—The fact-finding committee of the Kim Tae-chung kidnapping case of the South Korean opposition Democratic Party staying in Tokyo and the investigation committee of the Kim Tae-chung kidnapping case of supra-partisan dietmen of Japan demanded that the Japanese and South Korean authorities investigate the kidnapping case and open to the public all the materials related to it, according to a report of the Japanese newspaper MAINICHI SHIMBUN September 29.

Delegates of both committees at a joint meeting on September 28 reached a consensus of view that the Kim Tae-chung kidnapping case in August 1973 was committed by the "government" power of South Korea and, after the case, the Japanese and South Korean authorities concealed the truth behind the case with equivocal, unlawful and undemocratic "political settlement" on two occasions, the paper reported.

According to an NHK report, the delegation of the fact-finding committee of the Kim Tae-chung kidnapping case when it called on the chief cabinet secretary of Japan on September 29 said that the clarification of truth had been blocked by a "political settlement" between the authorities of Japan and South Korea, though it was evident that the abduction was committed by the South Korean "Government". It demanded that the present Japanese Government reexamine the "political settlement" in those days and buckle down to the clarification of the truth behind the case and, at the same time, open to the public the materials of its investigation made until now.

Kim Il-song Receives Messages From Abroad

*SK0210062093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0425
GMT 2 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 2 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song received congratulatory messages and letters from the participants in meetings held in Stockholm of Sweden, Karachi of Pakistan, western Shoa region of Ethiopia, London of Britain, at Pascual Bravo University of Colombia and by the Oestfold provincial committee of the Norwegian Communist Party, to celebrate the 45th founding anniversary of the DPRK.

The messages and letters said that the Korean people have made great achievements in the revolution and construction and consolidated their socialist system over

the past 45 years under the banner of the chuche idea. And they expressed full support and solidarity for the Korean people's just cause of socialist construction and national reunification.

They wished President Kim Il-song long life in good health.

Kim Chong-il's Works Studied Abroad

*SK0110105193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007
GMT 1 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 1 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's work "On the Fundamentals of Revolutionary Party Building" was carried by the Pakistani paper JIHAD, his work "On the Chuche Idea" by the Zairese paper ETINCELLE and an article explaining about his work "Abuses of Socialism are Intolerable" by the Ghanaian paper WEEKLY SPECTATOR.

Meanwhile, a seminar on his work "The Historical Lesson in Building Socialism and the General Line of Our Party" was held by the group for the study of the chuche idea of Comrade Kim Il-song of West La Penitence, Georgetown, Guyana.

The chairman and members of the group said at the seminar that the work expounded in a scientific way the fundamental principles and ways of building socialism.

They said that as the remolding of men has been pushed ahead in the DPRK, the popular masses are successfully playing their role as masters of the revolution and construction and their demand for independence and interests are being defended in the socialist construction.

Further on Studying of Works

*SK0510053093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0447
GMT 5 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 5 (KCNA)—"With the Century", reminiscences of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, was reported by the Russian paper PATRIOT, the Pakistani paper JIHAD, the Guinean paper INDEPENDENT and the Togolese paper ATOPANI.

A lecture on the reminiscences was given by the Union of Art Workers of Afghanistan.

The chairman of the union said in his lecture:

"The noble personality of his excellency president who regards the popular masses as the most powerful being in the world, believing in them as in heaven, is widely known to the world and it has become a source of the building of peculiar society centred on the popular masses in Korea."

"The reminiscences is an authentic record of a great man who rather highly appraises and pushes to the foreground his comrades in struggle and bestows an eternal life on them than writing about the feats of his excellency president himself."

"All the facts and stories recorded in the reminiscences show his broad magnanimity and noble patriotic spirit based on the view that the entire fellow countrymen should unite, placing the destiny of the nation before anything else.

"The reminiscences is, indeed, a great authentic record which consummates the immortal feats of President Kim Il-song who has been devoting his all to the freedom and liberation of the people, his warm love for them, his revolutionary comradeship and sense of obligation for the revolutionary soldiers and his noble personality".

A seminar on the reminiscences was held at the west African examinations council branch of the Ghanaian National Institute of the Chuche Idea.

Peruvian Parties Support Reunification Cause

*SK0110152393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1506
GMT 1 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 1 (KCNA)—Leaders of political parties of Peru expressed full support to the Korean people's cause of national reunification when they met respectively with the Korean ambassador.

Genaro Ledesma Izquieta, chairman of the People's Front of Workers, Peasants and Students, and Guzman Rivera Castaneda, general secretary of the Revolutionary Socialist Party, said they would do utmost to support the cause of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the Korean people for the socialist construction and national reunification and make positive efforts to develop relations with the WPK.

Alberto Moreno, general secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], Communist Party (Red Motherland), said it is their internationalist duty at present to support the Korean people's cause of socialist construction and national reunification.

"Our party is being encouraged by the WPK's steadfast anti-imperialist stand and confidence in the victory of the cause of socialism," he said.

Joint Statement Issued

*SK0310085193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0811
GMT 3 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 3 (KCNA)—A joint statement of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the Peruvian Communist Party [PCP] was published here on September 30.

According to the statement, a delegation of the Peruvian Communist Party led by General Secretary of its Central Committee, Renan Raffo Munoz, visited the DPRK from September 17 to 30.

During the stay, talks were held between the delegations of the WPK and PCP, at which the two sides exchanged views on the development of mutual relations and international issues of common concern.

The WPK highly estimated the PCP's positive efforts to strengthen itself, realize democracy and socialism, achieve unity with the left democratic forces, materialize peace and security and disarmament in the world against the imperialist aggression and interference, achieve the victory of the cause of socialism and strengthen international unity and solidarity with the revolutionary parties in Latin America and the rest of the world.

The PCP highly appreciated the Workers' Party and the people of Korea who are convincingly advancing the cause of socialism, not yielding to any challenges and obstructions of the imperialists.

It also expressed full support to and solidarity with the Korean people in their efforts to achieve the independent and peaceful Reunification of the country on the principle of national independence under the banner of the "10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country" expounded by the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Stressing that each party should work out the political line in conformity with the realities of each country and the demand of its people, both sides reaffirmed the firm will to conduct party building and activities to suit the specific conditions of their countries according to the spirit of the Pyongyang declaration and further strengthen bonds of internationalist unity, cooperation and solidarity with all the progressive political parties of the world aspiring after socialism, on the principles of independence and equality.

Zimbabwe, Nicaragua Groups on DCRK Founding

*SK0110102793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1004
GMT 1 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 1 (KCNA)—The National Liberation War Veterans Committee of Zimbabwe and the National Committee of the July 19 Sandinist Youth of Nicaragua published statements on September 21 in support of the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo (DCRK).

The National Liberation War Veterans Committee of Zimbabwe said in its statement that the DCRK founding proposal advanced by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is the most fair and aboveboard proposal for reunification acceptable to anyone who wants national reunification.

"We extend firm solidarity once again to the Korean people in their efforts to reunify the country under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il," it noted.

The National Committee of the July 19 Sandinist Youth of Nicaragua said in its statement that the DCRK founding proposal presupposes an independent solution of the question of Korea's reunification free from outside interference and it is the most realistic proposal for reunification conforming to the mutual interests of the

North and the South as it will bring a national unified government reflecting the specific realities of the Korean peninsula.

The statement said that the South Korean authorities must accept the proposal, not laying obstacles in the way of national reunification with the policy of dependence on outside forces.

Burundi Committee Issues Reunification Bulletin

*SK0610044193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0431
GMT 6 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 6 (KCNA)—The Burundi committee for supporting Korea's reunification brought out a special issue of its bulletin "Reasonable Way of Korean Reunification" on September 28 on the occasion of the month of support to the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo [DCRK].

The bulletin says the great leader President Kim Il-song had already put forward the proposal for founding the DCRK, a reunification proposal of confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments.

The prospect of reunification through a confederacy has become brighter as the great leader President Kim Il-song advanced "10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country" in April last, notes the bulletin.

Mozambican Committee Chairman on Reunification

*SK0510045393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0430
GMT 5 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 5 (KCNA)—The inaugural meeting of the Mozambique preparatory committee for solidarity functions on the occasion of the month of support to the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo took place in Maputo on September 24.

At the meeting the committee was formed and the Minister of Interior, Manuel Jose Antonio who is chairman of the Mozambican committee for friendship with the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, was elected its chairman.

Noting that Korea must be reunified according to the proposal of a confederacy and the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation advanced by the great President Kim Il-song, the chairman said those who are unwilling to accept the most fair and above-board confederacy proposal are separatists who do not want reunification.

He said they would make an active contribution to the development of friendly relations between the two countries by well organizing various solidarity functions on the occasion of the month of support to the DCRK founding proposal.

Italian Businessman on Cooperative Relations

*SK0610044793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0431
GMT 6 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 6 (KCNA)—Salvatore Florio, President of the Lumace-Co. Ge. Ca. Corporation of Italy, in a press interview here on October 4 said he would make an active contribution to the development of friendly and cooperative relations between Italy and Korea.

Saying that a restaurant serving Italian food opened in Pyongyang recently constitutes part of such exchange, he said a guarantee of briskly conducting economic exchange and cooperation with many countries of the world has been provided in the DPRK.

Korea where there are many scenic spots and places of historical interest in mountains, rivers and seas has sufficient conditions for peoples of many countries to enjoy tourism, he said, and went on:

Economic exchange between Italy and Korea should not be confined to a mere businesslike one but contribute to further promoting the friendship between the peoples of the two countries, he said, adding that a restaurant serving Korean food would make its appearance in Italy, too, in the not distant future.

Saying he was completely attracted by the noble personality of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il when he met with him last year, he stressed that the dear leader is a great person possessed of popular traits.

'Reverence' for Kim Chong-il Grows in South

*SK0510112093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014
GMT 5 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 5 (KCNA)—Reverence for the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is growing deeper among the South Korean people with every passing day.

Noting that the greatness of a nation lies in the greatness of its leader, a Yi residing in Songbuk District, Seoul, said:

"The dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il regards it as his noble historical mission to accomplish the cause of chuche started by President Kim Il-song and is devoting all his energy to it."

"He has built a great pyramid of seats for the country and the nation, for the times and mankind with his brilliant wisdom, wise guidance and noble virtues."

A student of Korea University surnamed Yi said:

"The dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il with both literary and military accomplishments was acclaimed as marshal following his election as supreme commander. This is a manifestation of all the fellow countrymen's respect for and unquestioned trust in him and an expression of the

nation's will to achieve the reunification and prosperity of the country under his guidance."

A politician residing in Mapo District said a great reality is brought about by an illustrious leader.

He went on:

"The socialism of the North is making a long drive, highly exalted as an object of worldwide envy, under the present-day complicated circumstances where socialism has suffered setbacks in some countries and anti-socialist moves of the imperialists and international reactionaries are becoming all the more heinous. This is entirely attributable to the wise guidance of Mr. Kim Chong-il.

"Mr. Kim Chong-il is, indeed, a great lodestar brightly lighting the path of our nation, our people."

More on South's 'Reverence'

*SK0610111493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1026
GMT 6 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 6 (KCNA)—Feelings of reverence for the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il are growing ever deeper among the South Korean people. An entrepreneur surnamed Kim in Tongnae District, Pusan city, said socialism built in the North is, indeed, a unique socialism.

He went on:

"The North is not subject to any domination and interference from big powers, exercising complete equality and sovereignty in external relations, too. All the state administration is being shaped according to aspirations of the nation and people. "This ideal reality of the North is coming into fuller bloom thanks to Mr. Kim Chong-il who is carrying into practice the people first idea of the great President Kim Il-song."

An intellectual in Inchon said:

"Socialism established in the North is durable because it has its definite idea and direction and enjoys unfailing support of the people as an anthropocentric socialism. Moreover, it is not affected by any raging storm as they have Mr. Kim Chong-il, a people's leader who is confidently leading the socialist society."

"Mr. Kim Chong-il is, indeed, the sun of guidance bringing an anthropocentric ideal society into bloom on this land, and the great lodestar to be attended and followed by our nation for ever."

A professor of history in Pusan told his students that "the dignity and pride of our nation are being exalted widely in the international community because we have as the successor to President Kim Il-song Mr. Kim Chong-il who is possessed of outstanding leadership ability, brilliant wisdom, noble virtues and boundless attraction."

'Noble Spiritual World' of Koreans Highlighted

*SK0610105493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1008
GMT 6 Oct 93*

[“NODONG SINMUN on Noble Spiritual World of Korean People”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 6 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a by-lined article titled "Noble Spiritual World of Korean People Who Are Adding Brilliance to the Country With Faith and Will of Loyalty."

The article reads in part:

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a letter from Pyo il-sok and his six brothers, lorry drivers of the fifth ore transport workteam of the ore transport corps of the Musan mining complex and sent to them an auto-graphic letter reading: "Thank you. The socialist fatherland will develop and prosper, supported by the will and faith of its dependable sons like you, Comrades."

His historical letter is a great inspiring banner which makes all the people renew their resolution to constantly glorify our socialist homeland of chuche more precious than their lives, upholding the party's leadership with a single heart of loyalty and filial duty.

Patriotism fully displayed by the Korean people stems from their firm belief that they entirely owe to Comrade Kim Chong-il their country and their happy life and future. And it is the noble Koryo-nation-first-spirit of adding shine through generations to the socialist country of chuche built by the respected leader President Kim Il-song, remaining loyal to the party's leadership.

Their ardent patriotism based on unfailing loyalty to the leader powerfully demonstrates its vitality in that they live and struggle with the unshakable belief that there are our prospering country and Korean-style socialism as there is Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Keenly feeling that he is the destiny of our country and nation and their future, the Korean people are singing the song of faith "no country without you." Their belief that our country is unthinkable without the illustrious leader is well manifested by many letters sent to him, the dear leader. This clearly shows the proud appearance of our society where the leader and soldiers are linked together by blood ties. It also bespeaks that the faith in the leader and the faith in the country have struck roots deep in the mind of the Korean people as the most solid and noble, inseparable thing.

The ardent patriotism of the Korean people closely linked with loyalty to the leader is fully displayed also in that they carry out the leader's plan and intention, ready to jump into fire and water, if necessary. The Korean people feel the greatest worth of life and pride in implementing the plan and intention of the great leader and the dear leader, going through thick and thin. They are successfully carrying into effect the party's plan and

intention in all domains of socialist construction under the slogan "when the party is determined, we can do anything!"

The ardent patriotism of the Korean people who are adding shine to the country with loyal faith and will to the leader finds concentric expression in that they are steadfastly defending and fully glorifying the undying feats performed by our party. The Korean people deem it the primary requirement of all the activities and the whole of their life and struggle to defend and constantly glorify the exploits performed by the party and the leader. This is because the Korean people regard the greatness of the party's feats as their faith. Indeed, the patriotism fully displayed by the Korean people, being based on their boundless loyalty to the party and the leader, is the most ardent and noblest one the like of which can not be seen anywhere else.

Daily Article Calls WPK 'Invincible Party'

SK0110110293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1025
GMT 1 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 1 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today says the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] now is exalting its honour as a great party that enjoys unquestioned support and trust of the popular masses and guides the socialist cause of chuche to victory.

Already long ago, the WPK successfully solved the question of its socio-class foundations in compliance with the demand of the times and the lawful requirement of the building of a working-class revolutionary party and has steadily strengthened and developed on a most solid and all-encompassing socio-class basis, the article says, and goes on:

The WPK has strengthened and developed into an invincible party with most solid socio-class foundations, because it has built itself as a broad-based party of the working people and unremittingly conducted the work for consolidating itself in conformity with the realities in which its socio-class foundations expanded.

The WPK is a mass party that has widely rallied in its ranks workers and fine advanced peasants and intellectuals with vanguard fighters of the working class as its core force. The WPK's line of building a mass party is a unique line that embodies the principle of chuche that the masters of revolution and construction are the masses of people and they are also the motive force of the revolution and construction.

Our reality shows that a working-class party can be steadily strengthened and developed on a solid socio-class foundation when it is based on all classes and strata aspiring after independence and rallies them closely around it under the present-day conditions.

The WPK has consistently regarded the working class, peasants and intellectuals as components of socio-class

foundations and intensified politico-ideological work among them and pressed ahead with the work for making all the members of society revolutionary and assimilating them to the working class along with the progress of socialist construction.

In particular, a policy of imbuing the whole society with one ideology was put forward and a vigorous struggle has been waged to carry it through under the leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. This marked an epochal event in firmly equipping all the members of society with one ideology, the chuche idea and strengthening the party's socio-class foundations immensely.

The WPK also advanced a policy of building the party with main emphasis placed on ideology and has directed big efforts to consolidating its class foundation.

It has recruited people faithful to its idea and cause including the core elements of the working class who were trained and tested and paid deep attention to cementing its class foundation.

Thanks to its chuche-based idea of party building and wise leadership, the WPK has now strengthened and developed into an invincible revolutionary party that enjoys absolute support and trust of the masses, and the party and the masses now are firmly united as a socio-political organism sharing the same destiny.

This clearly proves how just and viable the WPK's idea of consolidating the party's socio-class foundations is.

Daily Carries Article on Party Building Theory

SK0310091193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0837
GMT 3 Oct 93

[“Highly Important Guideline in Building Revolutionary Party of Chuche”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 3 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a by-lined article titled “Highly Important Guideline That Must Be Kept a Firm Hold on in Building Revolutionary Party of Chuche” on the occasion of the 3rd anniversary of the publication of “The Workers' Party of Korea Organizes and Guides All the Victories of Our People” (October 3, 1990,) an immortal classical work of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The article says:

The work clarifies theoretical and practical questions of ever significance in revolutionary party building and activities from the matter of adhering to the revolutionary character of the party to the matter of strengthening the unity and cohesion of the party, relationship of the party with the masses and party's leadership.

The work which is run through with the idea that party leadership is vital to the socialist cause and is a decisive guarantee for all victories in strengthening and developing our party into the revolutionary party of chuche.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has said:

"Party leadership is vital to the socialist cause. The socialist cause in our country has developed and triumphed under the leadership of our party, and it will be brought to splendid fruition in the future, too, only under the leadership of the party."

The theoretical and practical significance of the work lies in, above all, that it indicates the way of steadily strengthening party leadership by clarifying the importance of the leadership position and role of the party in accomplishing the socialist cause of our era.

The work gives a new scientific and theoretical exposition that the party leadership is a decisive guarantee for strengthening the driving forces of the socialist cause and enhancing its role, a fundamental condition to advance the socialist cause according to correct fighting strategy and tactics and a prerequisite to consistently maintaining and thoroughly applying the revolutionary principles in the whole course of the accomplishment of the socialist cause. Therefore, the revolutionary people have obtained a deep theoretical and practical understanding that it is vital in accomplishing the socialist cause to enhance the leadership position and role of the party.

Its significance lies in that it gives a profound scientific and theoretical exposition of all problems arising in strengthening and developing our party into the revolutionary party of chuche-type and thereby indicates the way of accomplishing the cause of party building in our era more brilliantly.

As clarified in the work, the important question in building the revolutionary party of chuche is to keep the revolutionary character of the party.

The theories on stepping up the modelling of the whole party on the chuche idea, under the revolutionary banner of the chuche idea the guiding idea of our party, and on further strengthening party's socio-class foundation are a highly important guideline which makes it possible to further consolidate and develop our party on an organisational and ideological basis and thoroughly defend the revolutionary character of the party in any circumstances.

The work puts forward tasks and ways to steadily consolidate and develop the singlehearted unity of our party in conformity with the requirements of developing revolution by ensuring oneness of ideology and leadership, inheriting the traditions of the unity and cohesion of our revolution, maintaining the principle of the democratic centralism in party building and activities, and policies of making the close bonds of kinship between the party and the popular masses more invincible.

It helps our party exalt its mightiness as an invincible revolutionary party advancing on the basis of the chuche idea, one idea.

Its significance lies in that it indicates the road of discharging its mission and duty as a political organisation of leadership by giving clear answers to all the theoretical and practical questions arising in steadily strengthening the party's leadership with work with people as the main.

The work expounds the idea and theory on discharging the duty of the mother party responsible for the destiny of the popular masses in order to strengthen party leadership with the main stress on the work with man and a policy establishing party work system under which the work with man should be in the main.

The unique idea of party building on conducting party work in keeping with the duty of the mother party is a mighty way of thoroughly applying the intrinsic demand of our party as the chuche-type revolutionary party and giving full play to the advantages of our-style socialism centred on the masses.

Material-Supply Functionaries' Meeting Ends

SK0510110493 Pyongyang Radio Pyongyang in Korean to South Korea 0100 GMT 23 Sep 93

[Text] A national meeting of material-supply functionaries closed on 22 September.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il arranged a meeting for material-supply functionaries and sent a congratulatory message of the Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee. The participants of the meeting were overflowing with fervent zeal with which they, cherishing deep in their hearts the great confidence and expectation of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, will carry out well the material-supply work and thus contribute to implementing the party's revolutionary economic saving work.

Speeches were made at the meeting. The speakers mentioned the great success attained in the material-supply work so far under the wise leadership of the great leader and the dear comrade leader who have placed the material-supply work as one of the significant problems arising in the improvement of the socialist economic management and led to develop the work in conformity with the demand of the Taean work system.

The speakers talked about every material-supply functionary becoming an earnest painstaker, an honest supplier, and a frugal housekeeper with endless loyalty and patriotic devotion so as to further improve and strengthen the material-supply work in accordance with the plan and idea of the party and the leader.

The speakers stressed that they highly display the superiority and vitality of our-style material-supply system by thoroughly implementing the great leader's teaching and the militant tasks presented by the congratulatory message of the party's Central Committee.

A message of pledge to Comrade Kim Chong-il, the dear leader of our party and people, was adopted at the meeting.

Meeting of Pricing Functionaries Opens

SK0410131293 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2300 GMT 28 Sep 93

[Text] A national meeting of pricing functionaries opened in Pyongyang on 28 September. The meeting is to sum up the successes and experiences our party has attained in implementing its pricing policy under the wise leadership of the party and the leader and to discuss measures to further improve and intensify the socialist pricing work in conformity with the demand of the development of the revolution.

Present at the meeting were Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee Political Bureau and premier of the State Administration Council; Comrade Han Song-yong, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee; Comrade Kim Tal-hyon, alternate member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and vice-premier of the State Administration Council; functionaries of relevant sectors, and exemplary pricing functionaries from across the country.

The meeting began with the chorus of the Song of General Kim Il-song and of the Song of the Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il. Comrade Han Song-yong delivered the congratulatory message of the WPK Central Committee to the national meeting of pricing functionaries.

Kim Tal-hyon Delivers Report

SK0410114893 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2300 GMT 28 Sep 93

[Report delivered by Kim Tal-hyon, member of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee Political Bureau and vice premier of the Administration Council, at a national meeting of price assessment functionaries held in Pyongyang on 28-29 September—read by announcer]

[Text] Comrade Kim Tal-hyon said that a national meeting of price assessment functionaries was being held when all the people throughout the country, in single-minded unity with the party and the leader, were vigorously staging the struggle to create the speed of a general onward movement of socialism of our own style in all sectors and units of the national economy.

He said that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who is always deeply interested in price assessment work, showed his great trust and love toward functionaries by having the national meeting of price assessment functionaries called and by sending the party Central Committee's congratulatory message.

He said that the meeting, which was being held amid the expectation and interest of our party and people, would serve as an opportunity of demonstrating the justness and vitality of the party's chuche-oriented price policy and further shining the price system of socialism. He added that the meeting would also serve as an opportunity of giving a stimulus to the party's price policy so that a new revolutionary upswing can be effected in socialist construction.

He said that to correctly work out a price policy and implement it to the letter in conformity with the transitional features of socialist society is a major task to which the working class party and state should give a firm priority in the struggle to manage and run the economy in a planned and rational way and improve the people's standard of living.

He continued to say that the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song created a unique idea and theory on prices in socialist society and established a socialist price assessment system of our own style by applying the immortal chuche idea to price assessment, thus providing us with a powerful weapon to correctly solve the price question.

He stressed that the idea and theory on socialist prices assessment system put forth by the great leader is a revolutionary and unique idea and theory which have the popular masses, who are the masters of the state and the society, become the masters of price assessment work and enable them to reasonably take advantage of price assessment system in conformity with the aspiration and demands of the popular masses.

He said that the idea and theory on socialist price assessment system extensively elucidate all theoretical and practical questions arising in price assessment work, including the essences of socialist price assessment work, the function and role of the price, the principles of price assessment system, and ways to realize these principles. He added that the great leader had wisely led the struggle to implement the idea and theory on socialist price assessment every time and step of revolution and construction.

He said that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il of our party and people placed the overall price assessment work on a new basis by wisely leading the struggle to endlessly improve and strengthen price assessment work in conformity with the development of revolution under which the chuche idea dominates the entire society.

He said that the dear comrade leader had published many works, including the classical work on "Some Questions in Price Assessment," developed and enriched the great leader's chuche-oriented idea and theory on price assessment work as required by the new stage of the developing revolution, and energetically led the struggle to implement these idea and theory.

He stressed that the mission and characteristic of the price and the principles of price assessment in socialist society, which are elucidated by the dear comrade leader,

had become the ideological, theoretical, and methodological basis of our party's price policy and also had become a mighty weapon to implement the price policy.

He emphasized that the price assessment work, from the chuche-oriented standpoint, was organized and promoted in our own way under the wise leadership of the party and the leader and that the work, thus, actively contributed to accelerating socialist construction as a mighty means for constructing the economy.

He said that price assessment functionaries shoulder a glorious task for defending and adhering to socialism of our own style and brilliantly realizing the party's revolutionary economic strategy by staging the vigorous struggle, upholding the party's price policy and the party Central Committee's congratulatory message, and, thus, by bringing about a new turn in socialist economic construction and price assessment work.

He stressed that all of them should effect an endless upswing in socialist economic construction and thus defend and adhere to and shine socialism of our own style by single-mindedly uniting around the party and the leader and thoroughly implementing our party's price policy.

WPK Congratulatory Message Sent

SK0410143493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2300 GMT 28 Sep 93

[Congratulatory message of the Workers Party of Korea, WPK, Central Committee to the national meeting of pricing functionaries held in pyongyang on 28 September—read by announcer]

[Text] The congratulatory message of the WPK Central Committee to the national meeting of pricing functionaries noted the opening of the national pricing functionaries' meeting at a time when all the people across the country are waging a vigorous struggle to defend and add further luster to our-style socialism with wholehearted unity around the party and the leader. The message went on to note: The national meeting of pricing functionaries is a historic meeting to demonstrate, at home and abroad, the justness and vitality of our party's pricing policy and the superiority of the socialist pricing system, and to provide a new landmark in the development of socialist pricing work upholding the party's revolutionary economic strategy.

The WPK Central Committee sends warm congratulations to the pricing functionaries from across the country who waged a devoted struggle to thoroughly implement our party's original pricing policy and positively contributed to the rational management and operation of socialist economy and to the enhancement of the people's material and cultural life.

Proper management and operation of pricing work in conformity with the nature and characteristics of

socialist society is an important matter which the working-class party and state in power should consistently maintain in socialist economic construction. The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has set forth anew the position and role of pricing work in the socialist economic management and the enhancement of the people's standard of living, put forth a chuche-oriented pricing theory and policy and an original unified pricing policy, and has wisely led the struggle to realize them.

Our pricing functionaries, upholding the leadership of the party and the leader, thoroughly implemented the party's pricing policy and unified pricing policy, contributing greatly to adhering to and adding luster to the socialist pricing system. The pricing functionaries fixed and applied prices in conformity with the will of the popular masses and the actual demands of the economic development in each stage of the developing revolution and thus positively contributed to running the people's economy in a planned and rational way and substantially providing the working people with an independent and creative life.

Thanks to the party's people-oriented pricing policy, the prices of consumer goods have been lowered on more than 50 occasions in our country since its liberation and additional benefits worth billions of won have been granted to the people every year.

The WPK Central Committee highly appreciates that all the pricing functionaries from across the country displayed high loyalty to the party and the revolution and responsibly carried out the task for the pricing sector, thus attaining great success in implementing the party's pricing policy.

Today, the pricing functionaries have a heavy but honorable task to resolutely repel the imperialists' and reactionaries' vicious antisocialist, antirepublic maneuver and effect new upsurge in the struggle to implement our party's economic policy. All the pricing functionaries should thoroughly implement our party's original pricing policy and implement pricing work in our own style so as to carry out well their important mission and duty for the country and the people.

The WPK Central Committee firmly believes that all the pricing functionaries in the country will be firmly united around the party and the leader and wage a vigorous struggle to further solidify and develop the pricing system of our socialism and to effect new upsurge in socialist construction, thus repaying the party's confidence and expectations with loyalty.

Meeting Closes 29 Sep

SK0510071593 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2300 GMT 29 Sep 93

[Text] A national meeting of price assessment workers closed on 29 September. The meeting proceeded in the midst of the participants' overflowing revolutionary zeal to display the superiority and vitality of our country's

socialist pricing system by thoroughly implementing the party's pricing policies and by following the leadership of the great leader and the dear comrade leader. They expounded the way for the socialist pricing work to advance and are wisely leading the struggle to implement this work.

Speeches were made at the meeting. The speakers spoke on the great honor and the happiness they experienced by receiving a congratulatory message from the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee on attending the meeting that served as an occasion for a new turn in the development of socialist pricing work.

They proudly reviewed active contributions made by the pricing work to accelerate vigorously the socialist economic construction and to further promote the people's living standard by brilliantly embodying our party's unique ideology and theory on socialist pricing.

Speakers expressed their resolution to bring about a new turn in pricing work by implementing brilliantly the programmatic tasks presented by the party's pricing policy and the congratulatory message of the party's Central Committee. The participants of the meeting vigorously displayed firm faith and will to thoroughly accomplish the party's revolutionary economic strategy and to defend, safeguard and glorify our-style socialism by vigorously demonstrating justness and vitality of our party's chuche-based pricing policy and by effecting a revolutionary turn in the socialist pricing work.

A message of pledge to Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people, and to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, was adopted at the meeting.

South Korea

Spokesman Expresses Regret on PRC Nuclear Test

SK0610014393 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
0135 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] In a statement by Foreign Ministry spokesman, the government today expressed regret regarding the nuclear test conducted by China under circumstances in which a treaty for overall nuclear test prohibition is being pursued.

Spokesman: Test 'Regrettable'

SK0610031093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0302 GMT
6 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 6 (YONHAP)—Seoul expressed concern Wednesday at China's underground nuclear test Tuesday and said it hoped that it would not mar global negotiations for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and extension of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT).

"It is regrettable that China conducted the nuclear test when nuclear powers are restraining testing and international efforts for conclusion of the CTBT are gaining momentum," Foreign Ministry spokesman Yu Myong-wan said in a statement.

"Our government urges all nuclear countries to restrain from nuclear testing until the CTBT is concluded," the statement reads. "And we hope for expedited efforts for nuclear nonproliferation for peace and stability of mankind."

Gives North 'Wrong Message'

SK0610020193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0151 GMT
6 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 6 (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Ministry officials were worried Tuesday that China's nuclear test may send the wrong message to North Korea. The topic was addressed at the Ministry's regular high-level morning conference, led by Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, officials said.

China's nuclear test and U.S. President Bill Clinton's reactionary decision to reopen U.S. testing may strain Beijing-Washington relations, and Pyongyang might think that the international coordination on its nuclear problem can be broken, one official said. It might also think that China, which displayed its adherence to an independent nuclear policy, will be unable to press North Korea on the nuclear question.

Beijing, as it did in the U.N. Security Council vote on a resolution on North Korea, abstained in last week's International Atomic Energy Agency general conference vote on a resolution against Pyongyang. "China's move threw cold water on the growing global consensus against nuclear non-proliferation," another official said. "It's important for nuclear countries to exercise self-restraint."

Officials predicted, nevertheless, no serious change in Seoul-Beijing cooperation on the North Korean nuclear situation.

"China-U.S. relations can well be patched up before their summit next month," the official said.

Officials Debate Test's Impact

SK0610084093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0804 GMT
6 Oct 93

[By Yi Tong-min]

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 6 (YONHAP)—Seoul officials were trying hard Tuesday to deny any domino effect from China's underground nuclear test on North Korea's non-compliance with nuclear inspection obligations.

The nature of the controversy is different at the very core, Foreign Ministry officials said. China is already a nuclear power and its underground test was strictly within the terms of the Partial Test Ban Treaty (PTBT),

of which it is a member. North Korea, on the other hand, is a party to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) but refuses to comply with its terms.

But the two controversies share one thing: They are a challenge to the international mood for nuclear nonproliferation, and they are a serious challenge because they can encourage other threshold nuclear countries, too, to go against this international mood.

"The global coordination was strong because the international community stood together against North Korea's violation of the nonproliferation move," said one official, who declined to be named.

"But now with China doing the same, North Korea might think it has gained a comrade," he said. "It's no small blow to the international community."

Another official worried that hardliners in North Korea may get the upper hand as a result. "Let's say the more liberal faction in North Korea was telling the leadership that the global trend is against nuclear development and Pyongyang should follow. Now the hardliners can confidently say, 'look at China. The spell is broken and we can hold out a little longer,'" he said.

The impact may be regional, according to this official, perhaps with rival Japan using this as an excuse for military buildup. "With China detonating its nuclear bombs, some countries may ask themselves if they can afford to sit still," he said.

But no official was willing to admit that China's power of persuasion over North Korea is weaker after the nuclear test. It's unrealistic to think that strained relations with the United States will send China to the side of North Korea, officials said. China knows well enough that the North Korean situation is different from its own, that the obligations are different. Beijing does not lose ground on North Korea, they say.

Seoul officials do not expect the situation to blow over, pointing out that both Beijing and Washington are aware of the political reality. "It's the political reality that made Washington invite Chinese President Jiang Zemin to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) leaders meeting next month in Seattle and to a bilateral summit, and it is the recognition of this reality that made Jiang accept," the official said.

Seoul is counting on the nuclear powers, especially the United States, to exercise self-restraint. The best choice is to wait and see how U.S. President Bill Clinton, already warning he will seek resumption of U.S. nuclear testing, will steer the situation.

Atomic Energy Agreement With China Being Pursued

*SK0610085993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0835 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 6 (YONHAP)—South Korea is pushing ahead with efforts to reach an agreement for

cooperation in the atomic energy field with China, a Foreign Ministry official said on Wednesday.

The government will soon dispatch working-level officials from the Science and Technology and other ministries to China to discuss such issues as safety of the Chinese nuclear power plants and atomic energy cooperation. "Dozens of nuclear power plants are clustered in Northeast Asian countries, including South Korea, Japan and China, and the possibility of a nuclear accident in this region is relatively high," he said. "Especially, South Korea has to take precautions against possible accidents in China, which is building some nuclear power plants on its east coast, near South Korea."

Working-level Chinese officials visited South Korea in August to discuss issues of mutual interest with Science and Technology officials, but there is no agreement yet.

Korea has 11 nuclear power plants, and Japan has 45. Korea currently has agreements on atomic energy cooperation with 10 nations.

President Supports China's Bid for 2004 Olympics

*SK0610081393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0720 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 6 (YONHAP)—President Kim Young-sam has expressed his willingness to support China's bid to host the Olympic Games, presidential spokesman Yi Kyong-chae said on Wednesday.

"We should make efforts to give China the opportunity to fully participate in international society," Kim told International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Juan Antonio Samaranch in the morning.

Samaranch said that he would make efforts for China to host the 2004 Olympics, and asked Kim to ask U.S. President Bill Clinton to help give the Olympics to China.

"When I meet with U.S. President Clinton, I will convey the message without fail," Kim reportedly said in the meeting.

"If I meet Chinese President Jiang Zemin at the summit meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) in Seattle of the United States next month, I will surely tell him I hope China will host the 2004 Olympics."

Samaranch noted South Korea's bid to host the 2002 or 2006 Winter Olympics, and said he personally hoped the 2006 Winter Olympics would be in Korea.

Kim said he appreciated the IOC's efforts to promote the peace and happiness of the human race and promised that South Korea will cooperate with the IOC in having a resolution of "Olympic truce" adopted by the United Nations.

Under an Olympic truce, city states in ancient Greece suspended their disputes or wars during the Olympic period and seven days before and afterward. Samaranch proposed in May that the system be revived and introduced in the name of the 186 IOC member countries.

Samaranch decorated President Kim with the Olympic order.

Later, over lunch, Prime Minister Hwang In-song asked the IOC president to help Korea's bid to host the 2006 Winter Olympics and to support the 1997 Winter Universiade in the resort of Muju.

Other lunch guests were Phillip Water Coles, an IOC member from Australia, Miguel Abad, a former director general of the Barcelona Olympic Organizing Committee, Kim Un-yong, an IOC vice president and Korean Olympic Committee President, and Pak Tae-kwon, vice minister of cultural sports affairs.

DPRK Ignores Proposal for New Round of Talks

SK0610004393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0004 GMT
6 Oct 93

[Text] Berlin, Oct. 5 (YONHAP)—The second round of talks between the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and North Korea on IAEA inspections of North Korean nuclear facilities has failed to take place, IAEA spokesman David Kyd said Tuesday.

In a telegram sent to North Korea's Minister of Atomic Energy Industry, Choe Hak-kun, last month, IAEA Director General Hans Blix proposed that the second round of talks be held in Vienna between Oct. 5 and 8, Kyd said.

North Korea has not sent any reply on dispatching a delegation to the talks, nor has it made a response of any kind, Kyd said.

Consequently, the proposed talks failed to materialize, he said, adding that the IAEA has no plans to send any letter to Pyongyang urging North Korea to resume talks. The IAEA is still awaiting a North Korean response, however, as it does not believe the doors for further talks with North Korea are closed, Kyd said. Therefore, the IAEA is not taking any additional measure such as referring the North Korean nuclear issue to the United Nations Security Council, he said.

North Korea has warned that it would not only refuse to allow IAEA inspection of its nuclear facilities but also refuse to hold further talks with the IAEA if the U.N. specialized agency takes any measures aimed at putting pressure on North Korea.

North's Vice Foreign Minister Cited

SK0610005593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0036 GMT
6 Oct 93

[Text] United Nations, Oct. 5 (YONHAP)—Only North Korea-U.S. talks can solve the nuclear situation on the

Korean peninsula and Pyongyang has no intention of owning atomic weapons, North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Song Won-ho told the United Nations Tuesday.

An International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) resolution against North Korea last week was a political conspiracy to smother Pyongyang's regime, Song told the U.N. General Assembly, and the Korean nuclear problem is a political problem that can be solved only through Pyongyang-Washington talks. He repeated that his country does not have nuclear weapons and does not have the intention, money or need to develop them.

The American troops in South Korea should leave, the Korean Armistice Agreement should be changed to a peace agreement, and Seoul must stop stirring up the international community on the nuclear problem, he said.

North Korea will not refuse outside nuclear inspections as long as fairness is guaranteed, he said.

He scoffed at Japan's bid for permanent membership of the Security Council, calling it a nation that feels no responsibility for its aggression and war crimes in World War II and that hasn't cleared its past. Tokyo should stop talking about non-existent North Korean nuclear development and stop using it as an excuse for its military expansionism and nuclear buildup, Song said.

Taiwan Considers Mission Exchange With North

SK0510233693 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
2204 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Report by REUTERS-YONHAP News Agency from Taipei]

[Text] CHINA TIMES reported on 5 October that Taiwan, which severed diplomatic relations with the ROK last year, is carrying out an exchange of foreign missions with North Korea.

The paper, quoting remarks made by (Rehautuping), floor leader of the Kuomintang, reported that three officials of the North Korean Administration Council are now secretly staying in Taiwan to discuss the opening of the missions. Also, it reported that Floor Leader (Rehuutuping) visited North Korea for five days early last month in order to discuss working matters on the issue.

Because there are no official diplomatic relations between North Korea and Taiwan, it is expected that the missions will be at the civilian-level organization and will be in the business of issuing visas.

Prosecution: 10-Year Sentence for U.S. Soldier

*SK0610113993 Seoul YONHAP in English 1102 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 6 (YONHAP)—The prosecution on Wednesday afternoon demanded ten years in prison for an American soldier accused of having beaten a Seoul beer hall proprietress.

Sgt. John Roger of the U.S. Army Second Division was prosecuted after he allegedly assaulted Ms. Kim Kuk-hoe, age 51, at her beer hall near the Samjong Hotel in southern Seoul on the night of last May 29, the day he flew into Seoul to begin his new duty in Korea.

Testifying at a trial session held at the Seoul District criminal court, Ms. Kim said, "Sgt. Roger returned to my shop late at night saying he left behind some part of his eye-glasses and suddenly hit me in the rear head with some tool to make me fall unconscious." She claimed that after she lost consciousness, the American soldier raped her. But, prosecutor Cho Yong-son made the imprisonment demand only on the battery count because there was no witness to the alleged rape and the victim couldn't remember the incident of that night correctly.

U.S. To Study Pollution at Bases in Country

*SK0310040493 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in
Korean 3 Oct 93 p 2*

[Text] The ROK and the United States plan to conduct a joint investigation on how much the environment of the U.S. bases stationed in the ROK are polluted.

A government official revealed on 2 October: "The ROK-U.S. environmental subcommittee affiliated to the joint committee of the ROK-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement [SOFA] held a series of working-level contacts and discussed how to prevent the environmental pollution caused by the sewage system and poisonous waste products in the U.S. bases. In the 8 October general meeting of the joint committee of the ROK-U.S. SOFA, the joint investigation of the environmental pollution issue in the U.S. bases will be adopted as an official agenda of the environmental subcommittee."

He added: "The environmental subcommittee will discuss the concrete time and method on the joint investigation on how much the U.S. bases are polluted."

The environmental subcommittee affiliated to the joint committee of the SOFA was inaugurated in July 1992 after the domestic public opinion on the environmental pollution of U.S. bases was stirred up. Thus, the ROK and the United States held contacts on holding a concrete investigation regarding this matter. Through the investigation, the government plans to examine and analyze the environmental pollution problems of U.S. bases and take joint measures, such as moving the base to another place or making it mandatory to install sewage disposal facilities, on the U.S. bases that have serious pollution problems.

Parliamentarians Argue Removal of U.S. Base

*SK0610060993 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean
6 Oct 93 p 4*

[Article by reporter Yi Sang-ki: "Offensive and Defensive Argument on 'Removal of U.S. Military Base in Yongsan' Between Two National Assemblymen from Democratic Party Attracts People's Attention"]

[Text] During the second-day session of parliamentary inspection of state affairs at the Ministry of National Defense [MND] on 5 October, National Assemblymen Kang Chang-song and Na Pyong-son, both from the Democratic Party and former general-grade officers in the Army, stood in direct confrontation with each other over the issue of removal of the U.S. Army base in Yongsan, thus attracting the people's attention.

In February 1990, the ROK and the United States agreed to move the Yongsan Military Base to the Osan-Pyongtaek district by the end of 1996.

In April 1992, however, the U.S. Army alleged that the removal of the Yongsan Base should be realized in connection with integration and dissolution of overall U.S. military bases in Korea, thus calling for a four-year postponement of the removal plan. In addition, the U.S. Army demanded \$10 billion as expenses for the removal. This amount is five times more than their previous agreement. As the result of all of this, the plan of removal, as a matter of fact, became null and void.

In connection with this, Assemblyman Kang Chang-song stressed: The removal of the U.S. military base in Yongsan to the south of Han River on the pretext of national sentiment will result in giving up Seoul, the capital, without being able to establish an independent advanced warning system and to work out sufficient countermeasures against North Korea's early-stage war tactics, thus inciting North Korea's illusion for provocation.

In particular, Assemblyman Kang pointed out that "the issue of removal of Yongsan U.S. Military Base is an important issue directly linked to national security. Nevertheless, the Government of the Sixth Republic pushed ahead with this plan in a rough and hasty manner without the agreement of the people. It is indeed regrettable."

Assemblyman Na Pyong-son, unlike Assemblyman Kang, insisted that the removal should be pushed ahead as previously planned, and pointed out actual examples, such as the removal of U.S. military bases in Japan.

Assemblyman Na also took the MND to task for retreating from its previous position to recover national pride by removing the Yongsan base. He pointed out that "Japan actively pushed ahead with the 'project for integration and disorganization of bases' in the late 1960's. As a result, Japan was able to realize early

redemption of the bases used by the U.S. Army. This was entirely attributable to the strong will of the government."

In particular, Assemblyman Na stressed that if the removal is delayed, the expenses for the removal will drastically increase. He said that "since modern war has the nature of three-dimensional warfare, it is wrong to think that with U.S. military base in Seoul, the capital sphere, is safe."

Country To Send Economic Aid for Palestinians

*SK0210053193 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
0400 GMT 2 Oct 93*

[Report by Washington-based correspondent Kim Chin-ki]

[Text] Han Sung-su, ROK ambassador to the United States, said today that the ROK Government is prepared to participate in international efforts to assist Palestine in its economic development and that it is considering ways to participate in such efforts.

Ambassador Han Sung-su, speaking at a meeting supporting peace in the Middle East held at the U.S. State Department today, said that the ROK looks forward to sharing the experience it has accumulated over the last 30 years to develop Palestine's economy and develop the Middle East.

Ambassador Han stressed that the ROK Government's consistent position is to support the peaceful settlement of the Middle East issue and added that the international community should render economic assistance for the economic development of Palestine and the achievement of lasting peace in the Middle East.

The meeting was attended by foreign and finance ministers from 43 countries, including the United States and Russia, and delegates from the United Nations, the PLO, the EC, and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

The Clinton Administration proposed a \$2 billion financial aid package for Palestine over the next five years.

Iran's Request for One-Year Deferment Studied

*SK0410025493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0207 GMT
4 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 4 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government is looking into a request by Iran for another year to pay import bills totaling 220 million U.S. dollars.

The Islamic State recently asked Seoul to grant it an additional 12 months to pay for goods bought from Korean trading houses, officials of the Trade, Industry, and Energy Ministry said Monday.

It proposed that if Korean exporters or their banks sign an agreement on deferring payment with a bank designated by the bank of Iran, it will pay 10 percent of the amount due within 10 days and the rest a year from the original payment date.

If Korea accepts its proposal, Iran said, it will send the governor of its central bank or a government representative to Seoul early this month to discuss the specifics.

Iran is estimated to owe 220 million dollars to Korean companies as of last month, including 143.1 million dollars to seven major trading firms. It owes 56 million dollars to Daewoo, 28.4 million dollars to Ssangyong, 23.9 million dollars to Samsung, 11.6 million dollars to Lucky-Goldstar, 8.9 million dollars to Hyosong, 8.6 million dollars to Hyundai and 5.7 million dollars to Sunkyong. The rest is due to smaller exporters.

Tehran, stricken with bad foreign exchange situation, has been deferring settlement of import bills since last year and export insurance companies of major countries like Japan, Germany and France have stopped comprehensive guaranties for exporters to Iran and underwrite individual cases only after strict examination.

Korea had been careful exporting to Iran since the resolution on limiting insurance against the country in a meeting of the International Union of Credit and Investment Insurers last December.

After Tehran made it clear it would pay but needed more time, Korea raised the ceiling for export insurance guaranty to 60 million dollars from 30 million dollars in August.

The government will discuss the matter with the Korea Export Insurance Corp. and related banks to decide whether to accept Iran's proposal, the official said.

Economic Planning Minister Reports on Loans

*SK0610024193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0133 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 6 (YONHAP)—South Korea has delivered 300 million U.S. dollars of a promised 1.1 billion dollars in economic cooperation fund to Hungary and Poland, Deputy Prime Minister Yi Kyong-sik said Tuesday evening.

The countries have paid interest of 60 million dollars on the economic assistance from Korea since normalization of ties with Hungary in February 1989 and Poland in November the same year, said Yi, who is also economic planning minister.

Yi, reporting on the Economic Planning Board to the National Assembly economy and science committee, said he could not go into details about the loans without consulting with the governments involved.

The 1.1 billion dollars breaks down to 750 million dollars in export-import support and private investment,

bank loans of 250 million dollars, and 100 million dollars in economic assistance.

Seoul has redeemed 32 million dollars of the principal and interest of 122 million dollars from Russia for economic aid of 1.47 billion dollars, he said.

Yi said the government will soon hold working-level talks with Moscow to claim payment in kind such as coal and fishing quotas, but the outcome is unsure as payment in spot goods sellable on the international market is banned by the Paris Club.

He admitted many state-financed think tanks are inefficiently managed and promised to revise and unify their research to avoid duplication of effort among them, universities and private research institutes.

Yi agreed on the need for land transactions to be conducted in real names and said he would recommend that the Supreme Court take action as it was beyond the jurisdiction of the administration.

North Processed Goods Exports Increasing

SK0210090793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0537 GMT 2 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 2 (YONHAP)—Most of North Korea's exports are processed goods made of imported materials, according to the Korea Institute for Industrial Economics and Trade (KIET).

Although North Korean exports in general have been declining since 1991, textile exports to Japan, western Europe and China rose to 157.24 million U.S. dollars last year, the government think tank said Saturday.

Imports of textile materials for processing totaled 132.87 million dollars in 1992. Exports to Japan and Germany were mostly sewn goods, according to KIET.

In 1991, exports to Japan were 5.6 percent off from 1989, but garment exports were 48.1 percent higher at 40 million dollars, and in 1992 garment exports were 60.8 percent higher than the previous year at 64 million dollars.

Garment exports to Germany increased two-fold from 1989 to 56 million dollars in 1990 and 25 percent from 1991 to 70 million dollars last year, representing 80 percent of its overall exports to Germany in 1992.

Exports of processed goods rose because North Korea's emphasis on processing imported materials into export goods to earn foreign exchange without much investment in light industry has combined with western desire for the use of North Korea's cheap but good and stable labor, according to the think tank.

South Korea's imports of processed goods from North Korea also are on the increase: From two contracts for 33,000 dollars in 1991 to 10 contracts for 550,000

dollars last year and 26 contracts for 2.18 million dollars on an approval basis in the first eight months of this year.

North Allegedly Imports Tons of Grain in 1993

SK0210081693 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0600 GMT 2 Oct 93

[Text] It was learned that from January to late August 1993 North Korea imported a total amount of 634,000 tons of grain including 84,000 tons of rice and 268,000 tons of corn from overseas.

According to a material submitted to the National Assembly by the Board of National Unification, North Korea imported a total amount of 634,000 tons of grain—230,000 tons of wheat from Canada; 330,000 tons of rice and corn from China; and 59,000 tons of rice from Thailand—this year.

This material also indicated that the total amount of grain demand for North Korea this year is 6.58 million tons. Among the 6.58 million tons, 2.31 million tons is the amount of grain that has to be imported from overseas this year because of food shortage.

France Eases Restrictions on Fishing Vessels

SK0610030893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0240 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 6 (YONHAP)—Restrictions on South Korea's deep-sea fishing vessels in French waters in the South Pacific have been eased, the National Fisheries Administration (NFA) said on Wednesday.

Fisheries officials of the two nations held negotiations in Paris from Sept. 27 to Oct. 1 to hammer out conditions for Korean vessels fishing in waters belonging to French Polynesia, the Wallis and Futuna Islands, and New Caledonia.

Korea agreed to increase total fishing fees to 8.25 million French francs (around 1.54 million U.S. dollars) from last year's 4,172,000 francs on condition that France loosen several strict conditions set at the meeting a year ago, NFA officials said. The agreement is effective for a year from Oct. 1.

Cost to South Korean vessels caused by collateral conditions will be included in the fees for the first time, according to the bilateral agreement. For the past year, Korea had to sell more than 1,900 tons of fish to a cold storage warehouse in Tahiti or pay penalty of 440 dollars a ton below the minimum selling amount as well as abide by the condition of a minimum 44 calls at Papeete on Tahiti.

Meanwhile, the French side allowed 60 South Korean vessels to catch up to 3,800 tons of fish as Korea asked.

SRV Officials, Technicians To Undergo Training
*SK0510115793 Seoul YONHAP in English 1013 GMT
5 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 5 (YONHAP)—A group of 24 Vietnamese officials and engineers are set to undergo training at leading Korean industries for nearly a month beginning late this month.

The trainees will be four senior officials of Vietnam's Heavy Industry Ministry and 20 engineers from industries and institutes under the control of the Vietnamese Ministry.

An official of the Ssangyong Business Group said on Tuesday their training is co-sponsored by his group and the Korea Heavy Industries and Construction Co. at the request of the Vietnamese heavy industry minister.

The 24 Vietnamese, arriving in Seoul on Oct. 23, will be divided into two teams for training at the facilities of Ssangyong and Korea Heavy Industries through Nov. 19. They will also have opportunities to observe the country's major industries including the Pohang steel works and the Uljin atomic power plants.

The trainees will be the first Vietnamese ever trained in South Korea after the end of the Vietnam War in the mid-1970s.

Government Signs Up for FLAG Cable Network
*SK0310033793 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
3 Oct 93 p 3*

[Text] South Korea has agreed in principle to participate in the Britain-Japan FLAG submarine optical fiber cable network which will stretch across the Indian Ocean through a distance of 29,000 kilometers.

According to Korea Telecom yesterday, the MOU [memorandum of understanding] was signed Sept. 27 in accordance with a draft drawn up by Nynex, an American business concern, to cover 13 countries. The FLAG cable network will hook up Britain, Portugal, Gibraltar, Italy, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, India, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Hong Kong, South Korea and Japan. Only Singapore has yet to sign up for the project.

Telecom officials said the project valued at 1.2 billion U.S. dollars will be undertaken by four multinational companies with portions of the network being sold to the participating countries. The four companies are Nynex and Gulf Associates of the United States, Marubeni of Japan, and Dallah Albaraca of Saudi Arabia.

The officials said the project calls for the installation of two units of 5Gbps (gigabits per second) systems which will accommodate a total of 120,000 telephone circuits. The systems has a unique characteristic of not requiring optical signals to electric signals and is due for completion before 1998, the Telecom officials explained.

In consideration of the completion of the South Korea-China optical cable system in 1995, the government is considering locating the receiving terminals in Taean, Chungchongnam-to.

The South Korean government was initially planning to hook up to Europe through the Trans-Siberian Line (TSL) but opted for the FLAG network due to COCOM [Coordinating Committee for Exports to Communist Areas] regulations.

President Kim Rules Out Government Reorganization

*SK0510121093 Seoul YONHAP in English 1111 GMT
5 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 5 (YONHAP)—President Kim Young-sam said on Tuesday there will be no reorganization of the government.

"The existing government organization is not 100 percent satisfactory," he said. "But, it is not desirable to change the organization at this time when government offices have been working hard since the birth of the new government seven months ago."

In an interview with the KYONGHYANG SINMUN on its 47th anniversary, Kim said he would more effectively run the government organization as it is by rectifying mistaken practices instead of reorganizing it.

The president said that nobody needs to feel uneasy or the sense of guilty with regard to the on-going reforms since he said the reforms are aimed at further solidifying the liberal democratic system.

Kim said a bill is being prepared to exempt or lower value added tax for those who run cottage business concerns, and also to reduce income, corporate and inheritance tax rates in connection with the institution of the real names financial transaction system.

Saying that he does not consider any reorganization of the political circles, President Kim said he neither sees any need to rewrite the Constitution in preparation for national unification.

National Assembly Focuses on Money Matters

*SK0510094693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0917 GMT
5 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 5 (YONHAP)—Money matters came up too often for comfort at the National Assembly inspection of the Foreign Ministry Tuesday, mostly chastising of the ministry for lacking power of persuasion on the Economic Planning Board to get the needed budget.

Rep. Pak Sil fired the most slings about money, asking why the president goes above the law by not setting aside the budget for his overseas trips in advance and not adhering to the daily allowance set by law when he is overseas.

When Chief Protocol Officer Choe Tong-chin reported that the common practice is to draw the trip expenses from the supplementary budget for the president, Pak demanded to know what the regulations say on how much the president can spend a day. After much shuffling of the books, Choe said regulations say the president can spend up to 70 U.S. dollars for allowance, 96 dollars for meals and 350 dollars for lodging per day.

—Rep. Yi U-chong hit the bull's-eye when she asked if Seoul ever came through with its promise of 26 billion won compensation for Korean survivors of World War II atomic bombing in Japan promised in 1990. When Director-general in charge Yu Pyong-u said "no" for reasons that the budget-setting Economic Planning Board refuses to allocate the money, Rep. Pak Chong-su blamed the ministry for "not going directly to the president for the money."

"How can we talk about Japan's responsibilities for the past when we don't do our promised share?" asked Rep. Na Ung-pae.

"Go directly to the president if you have to," Pak said.

—The Office of Policy Planning hoped to show off about the launching of its first computerized information network with its overseas missions but was criticized instead for lack of budget planning.

Assistant Minister for Policy Planning Kwon Pyong-hyon said the network will open as soon as late this month to exchange news and information to its missions abroad, but lawmakers asked why the project was never included in the budget request for next year.

Rep. Yi Chong-chan was critical that the project was launched only this year and that the policy planning office neglected to make long-term plans to expand the network.

—The final blow was to the International Organization Bureau who reported last to the National Assembly.

Director-general Kum Chong-ho said South Korea owes 4 million dollars in backed up contribution to the United Nations and yet the Economic Planning Board has not set aside enough in next year's budget to cover 1994 portion of the contribution and the late payment.

Rep. Yi Chong-chan drew the biggest laughter of the session when he said, "I can't believe they (Economic Planning Board) actually bargained on the money owed to the United Nations. What do they think this is? A flea market?"

The joke took a serious turn when the foreign minister directly intervened to correct Director-general Kum on the amount of backed up contribution.

"It's actually 9 million dollars. But it is expected to drop to 4 million dollars by end of this year," he said in a stern voice.

Seoul: 58,600 Foreigners in Country Illegally

*SK0410120993 Seoul YONHAP in English 1154 GMT
4 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 4 (YONHAP)—About 58,600 foreigners are staying in the country unlawfully beyond their visa periods, a material furnished by the Justice Ministry to the National Assembly said on Monday. By nationality, they include 25,600 Chinese, 10,300 Philippines, 7,190 Bangladesh people and 3,500 Nepalese. The total include 18,400 foreigners who have voluntarily reported their overstays to authorities, who will be made to leave the country by the end of the year.

The immigration office will ferret out the remainder, who upon uncovery would be deported.

The paper said the government policy is to let illegally staying foreigners leave the country because their stay in the country is prone to give rise to crimes such as robbery, use of counterfeit bills and passport forgery. The overstayers, most of whom are believed to have been illegally employed for unskilled work, are also feared to encroach on Koreans' employment opportunities, the paper said.

Officials Register Property Under Children's Names

*SK0610075393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0712 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 6 (YONHAP)—Some senior public officials possess land or buildings registered to children who are minors, according to documents submitted to the National Assembly by the prime minister's office at the request of assembly's administration committee on Tuesday.

National Tax Administrator Chu Kyong-sok has 31,900 square meters of land in Pusan in the name of his first son.

Chonan Industrial Junior College Dean Im Sun-chae owns 10 plots of land in Seoul and an apartment in Chonan in the names of his first son and his grandson.

Ten senior Foreign Ministry officials turned out to have real estate in the names of minors.

Assistant Foreign Minister for Planning and Management Kim Kyong-chol has a flat in an "officetel" building in Mapo, Seoul, in the name of his first son that is valued at 70 million won (86,400 U.S. dollars), according to the documents.

Assistant Minister for Policy Planning Kwon Pyong-hyon has 202 square meters in Hadong, South Kyongsang Province, in the name of his first son.

Ambassador to Hungary Choe Song-hong has an apartment in Chamsil, Seoul, in the name of his daughter and Ambassador to Poland Choe Ung has 34,900 square

meters of forest in Kumsan, South Chungchong Province, and an apartment in Chamsil in the name of his third son.

Ambassador to Malaysia Yi Sang-ku has an apartment in Kwachon, Kyonggi Province, in the name of his third son.

Research commissioner of the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security (IFANS) Kwon Tong-man has 2,500 square meters of rice paddies in Chungwon, North Chungchong Province, and IFANS commissioner Ham Tae-hyok has an apartment at Yongsan, Seoul. They are in the names of minors.

Ambassador to Indonesia Chang Myong-kwan has a shop in Oksu-tong, Seoul, in the name of his first daughter, and Ambassador to Bangladesh Sin Song-o has land in Nonhyon-tong, Seoul, in the name of his daughter.

Minister to the United States Kim Chong-ki has 3,600 square meters in Koyang, Kyonggi Province, in the name of his second son, according to the documents.

Kim Tae-Chung Views Unification Plan

*SK0610071893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0648 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 6 (YONHAP)—A traveling Kim Tae-chung appears to be playing the role of a highly visible elder statesman, throwing his weight behind his erstwhile fellow opposition leader and rival, President Kim Yong-sam.

Dubbed "the two Kims," they seemed to be inseparable even after one became president of the country and the other retired from politics or at least said he had.

In a speech in New York last Friday, Kim Tae-chung expressed his hope that President Kim's reform policy would succeed.

"President Kim has wiped out factions within the military and carried out the real-name financial transaction system," Kim Tae-chung said. "He has done very excellent jobs."

President Kim's reform has to succeed, if only to show those South Korean voters who had demanded "the two Kims" retire from politics, Kim Tae-chung said, according to Pak Chi-won, spokesman of the main opposition Democratic Party, who returned from New York on Tuesday.

If President Kim makes mistakes, they will say Kim Tae-chung would have made the same kinds of mistakes, Kim Tae-chung said, adding that he wishes that Kim Yong-sam's reform succeeds and that he will render all his support for it.

Kim Tae-chung, a former presidential candidate of the Democratic Party, is touring the United States after leaving Seoul on Sept. 21 for trips to Germany and

Russia. He said he wanted to visit these countries to study unification problems and ways to form "the Asia-Pacific peace foundation."

Following a speech at a dinner given by the Korean human rights research center, Kim met with a Columbia University professor who specializes in Korean affairs.

In the meeting, Kim was asked whether he was willing to meet with North Korean President Kim Il-song to discuss his so-called three-stage unification formula. Kim was reported to have replied that he would not.

"I have no intention of meeting Kim Il-song before President Kim Yong-sam has a summit with him," Kim Tae-chung was quoted by Pak as saying.

Kim Tae-chung arrived in the United States on Sept. 29 and met with several American political leaders, including former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and former President Jimmy Carter, and exchanged views on problems related to unification of Korea.

They all approved Kim's three-stage unification formula, which calls for the formation of a Korean commonwealth, unification under a federal system and complete unification.

In Russia and Germany, Kim met with former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and German leaders to discuss the unification question and the North Korean nuclear issue.

He said his Asia-Pacific peace foundation would make available results of its research on unification and other issues to the government and the people.

Kim is scheduled to go to Los Angeles to attend the 10th anniversary of the Korean Human Rights Research Center there before leaving for home Oct. 12 via Japan.

Defense Ministry Reorganizes Several Commands

*SK0410084693 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean
4 Oct 93 p 1*

[Text] The Defense Ministry said on 4 October that it had started to largely reorganize and merge the similar military organizations and functions under the Defense Ministry and the Joint Chiefs of Staff in an effort to enhance the effectiveness of the military organizations.

Prior to the inspection by the National Assembly Defense Committee on the same day, he said in his operational report that "the Defense Ministry is positively seeking plans to merge and operate jointly the Military Supply Command, the Military Educational Command, and other various military headquarter and commanding offices which have been independently operated by each service."

Also, the Defense Ministry has reorganized the Military Attache offices overseas, and said that it will completely withdraw by 1 November five agents of the Military

Security Command who are sent to five foreign countries, including the United States, Japan, and Russia.

Attaches To Be Withdrawn

SK0410055493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0540 GMT 4 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 4 (YONHAP)—The government has decided to withdraw Defense Security Command [DSC]-dispatched attaches from embassies in the United States, Japan, Russia, Germany and Hungary effective Nov. 1.

According to a report submitted by the Defense Ministry to the National Assembly, the DSC officers who are now stationed in those five countries as military attaches, will be reassigned to embassies in Bolivia, Zaire, Austria, Greece and Mongolia.

The decision is part of the government's plans to reduce the structure and function of the Defense Security Command so that it performs only its traditional role of collecting military information.

The Defense Ministry plans to send military attaches to Vietnam and Egypt this year.

Promotion Prospects for Army Generals Analyzed

SK0410091893 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 4 Oct 93 p 2

[Article by reporter Chong In-hwa: "Prospects for Reshuffle of Army General Officers"]

[Excerpts] With the beginning of the screening of candidates for promotion to brigadier general on 6 October, which is expected to take place around late October, the direction of reshuffle of the Army generals in the second half of the year attracts people's attention.

The reform drive in military personnel administration began with the abrupt replacement of Kim Chin-yong, the Army Chief of Staff, and So Wan-su, commander of the Army Security Command, on 8 March. The whirlwind of this reform drive will likely be settled by President Kim Yong-sam during personnel management of the Army generals in the second-half of the year.

The people's interest is focused on whether those who are involved in private clubs will be excluded from promotion and from important assignments and on whether non-military academy graduates, including Reserve Officers Training Course [ROTC] graduates, will be promoted to four-star generals.

The screening work for promotion of officers to brigadier general will begin on 6 October and the final list of those promoted to this rank will be announced on 12 October. It was revealed that a total of 43 new brigadier generals will appear but members of former Hanahoe [private organization of military academy graduates] will likely be excluded from promotion to brigadier general.

Members of Aljahoe [another private organization of military academy graduates] and Hanahoe were all excluded from promotion to the field grade during the last screening session that began early last month. In addition, Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae revealed that disadvantages would be given to those who are involved in private organizations during this year's personnel management. Therefore, it is likely that eight former Hanahoe members from the 27th class of military academy graduates who are eligible for promotion to brigadier general from this year will be excluded from promotion.

However, what attracts greater attention are promotions and assignments of division commander-level and corps commander-level generals that will take place late October.

If promotion up to the rank of brigadier general is called personnel administration within the military, promotion to above major general can be called as personnel management by Chongwadae [presidential residence]. Therefore, the forthcoming personnel management will show the framework of the new military stream-line of the civilian government.

The main target for personnel management of corps commander-level generals is the 21st class of the military academy graduates. Pyo Sun-pae, commandant of the Third Military Academy, was assigned to corps commander in last April for the first time, in spite of being a Hanahoe member. Thus, how many more from the 21st class will be assigned as corps commander attracts the people's attention.

It is expected that two or three from this class will be promoted to lieutenant general and be assigned as corps commanders, replacing some incumbent corps commanders who are from the 20th class and Hanahoe members. [passage omitted]

Major generals Choe Sung-u and Chon Yong-chin, Hanahoe members' forerunners from the 21st class, were already relegated last April and Major General Yi Chung-sok was discharged from active duty for being involved in the incident at the dinner meeting of the Joint Chiefs of Staff during which a general officer openly criticized the Army's personnel management. Therefore, the possibility of transfer of Hanahoe-member officers is very slim. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, approximately 10 generals will be reassigned as division commanders, and members of the 24th class of the military academy will advance to division commanders for the first time. Seven of the 24th class are the Hanahoe members, and they will most likely be excluded from promotion. [passage omitted]

What attracts the people's attention most is the promotion of four-star generals. Of six four-star general positions, most of these position holders have held their posts for less than six months. As a result, their reshuffle is not likely. However, four-star generals from the 18th

class who were Hanahoe members can be subject to personnel reshuffle, and their reshuffle will possibly cause successive repercussions.

During personnel management carried out during the first half of the year, the number of non-military academy graduates, such as ROTC officers, who advanced to division commanders and corps commanders has exceptionally increased. Accordingly, whether this phenomenon will appear in the forthcoming promotion or not also attracts the people's attention.

People close to the military pointed out that the style of President Kim Yong-sam's military personnel management is that promotion of military academy graduates with priority has been diluted. Therefore, there is a possibility that the advance of non-military academy graduates will be expanded during the second half-year personnel management.

Generals To Be Reshuffled

SK0610022593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0216 G.MT
6 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 6 (YONHAP)—The Army started screening candidates for promotion to brigadier, major and lieutenant general Wednesday for a regular reshuffle of general-grade officers during October.

It will be the largest reshuffle since President Kim Yong-sam took office in February and the conclusion of a series of promotions and reshuffles conducted under his Armed Forces reform program.

Affected by the reshuffle will be three or four three-star generals, around 10 two-star generals and several dozen one-star generals. As in previous promotions, members of private officers' clubs, such as Hanahoe, are highly likely to be excluded because of their alleged politicking.

Three major generals who are members of Class 21 of the Korean military academy (KMA) are expected to be promoted to lieutenant general, along with one ROTC (reserve officers' training corps) major general. They all will become corps commanders.

Six brigadier generals who graduated in KMA Class 24 will be promoted to major general and become division commanders together with a few non-KMA brigadier generals.

Forty-three colonels will be promoted to brigadier general, including 15 or 16 from KMA Class 26, six or seven from Class 27, and eight or nine from Class 25. The remainder will be non-KMA colonels. About 10 KMA colonels who were members of Hanahoe are believed to be excluded from promotion.

The Navy and Air Force will promote nine new commodores and eight new brigadier generals, respectively. The Navy will reshuffle some 20 rear admirals and commodores after the promotions, and the Air Force will shake up some 10 general-grade officers.

Private Officers Groups Dismantled

SK0610085693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0812 GMT
6 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 6 (YONHAP)—The Army has disbanded 42 private associations of officers, such as Hanahoe and Alja-hoe, since Kim Yong-sam became president in February. Defense Security Commander Gen. Kim To-yun told a parliamentary inspection team on Wednesday.

In a closed-door hearing, Kim reportedly said that the action was taken under the Army policy of allowing no private gathering of officers, but did not mention how many officers were involved in the private groups.

In the defense security command alone, eight members of these groups have been sent back to the Army. They were six Hana-hoe members (four colonels and two lieutenant colonels) and two Alja-hoe members (one colonel and one major).

The command has also returned 85 men and officers, including three general-grade officers, to the Army and retired 142 others for neglect of duty and other reasons since the new government set sail.

Kim said security defense command members are strictly barred from visiting civilian organizations.

Manpower To Be Further Reduced

SK0610123193 Seoul YONHAP in English 1156 GMT
6 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 6 (YONHAP)—The Defense Security Command has reduced its manpower by 723 since the birth of the new government last February and will slice off 396 more by 1997 step by step. As a result, its authorized manpower strength has been cut from 6,047 to 5,324 now and will be reduced to 4,928 in 1997, a material prepared by the Security Command for parliamentary inspection showed on Wednesday. The headquarters manpower alone has been cut by 137, who included 36 field-grade officers, another 36 company-grade officers, 27 warrant officers and 38 Army civilians.

The material said the command has closed down the office of intelligence, whose duty had been to check politicians and suspicious citizens. It has instead created the office of materials management. At the same time, the Defense Security Command plans to relocate its 12 provincial detachments into nearby military camps. The command has also closed down the 61 security outlets it had operated clandestinely in the perimeter areas of its units, the material said.

'FX Project' Planned To Bolster Air Defense

SK0510115493 Seoul YONHAP in English 1114 GMT
5 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 5 (YONHAP)—The government plans to promote an "FX project" as a follow-up scheme of the

Korean Fighter Program (KFP) to further bolster air defense ability in the 2000s.

Speaking before parliamentary inspectors, Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae said on Tuesday there are two ways under review to promote the "FX project." One is to introduce fighter planes a step better than the F-16 being introduced under the KFP, and the other is to introduce the F-15 Mimex planes, a U.S. military surplus item.

Kwon also said that his ministry cannot reduce the number of the KFP planes to be introduced because he said any reduction would seriously affect national interests.

He said his ministry is promoting the exports of defense equipment to Southeast Asian countries with emphasis on armored personnel carriers and vessels. In this regard, the government would try to obtain simplified procedures for obtaining consent to exports of defense items as well as to expand the list of items subject to the exemption of royalty, Kwon said.

Justice of Supreme Court Resigns 2 Oct

*SK0210121493 Seoul YONHAP in English 1123 GMT
2 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 2 (YONHAP)—Head of Ministry of Court Administration Pak U-tong resigned to open ways to juniors on Saturday.

Pak, who is also a justice of the Supreme Court, is senior to the new Chief Justice Yun kwan.

Another justice of the Supreme Court Choe Chae-ho, who is also senior to Yun, is also to resign next week when his judging works end, informed sources said.

"There is no one except the two justices, who will resign," the sources said.

New Justices To Be Proposed

*SK0610053093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0511 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 6 (YONHAP)—Chief Justice Yun Kwan is scheduled to propose to President Kim Yong-sam on Wednesday afternoon that the three vacancies on the Supreme Court be filled. The third vacancy on the bench was created in the morning, when Justice Choe Chae-ho resigned.

If Kim accepts, Yun will nominate three candidates for confirmation by the National Assembly on Oct. 9 and for appointment by the president on Oct. 11.

Mentioned as top contenders are An Yong-tok, chief of the Pusan High Court, Ka Chae-hwan, vice minister of the Administration of the Supreme Court, and Chong Kwi-ho, chief of the Chunchon District Court. Also talked about are Yi Yong-mo, chief of the Seoul High Court, Kim Song-chin, chief of the Judicial Research and Training Institute, and Kim Song-il, chief of Taejon High Court.

Burma

Kachin Spokesman Says No Agreement Signed

BK0610030093 Oslo Democratic Voice of Burma in Burmese 1430 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Telephone interview with Daw San Aung, spokeswoman of the Kachin Independence Organization, by unidentified correspondent of the Democratic Voice of Burma—recorded; date not given]

[Text] [DVOB] Daw San Aung, we have learned that talks have been held between the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and the Kachin Independence Organization [KIO]? What kind of major agreements have been reached?

[Daw San Aung] In the view of our KIO Central Committee, the history of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] should be objectively studied and the causes and effects thoroughly scrutinized and considered. Organizations concerned should then take into consideration the interests of the country and the entire nation and base [words indistinct]. In holding talks between the KIO and the SLORC at present, we of the KIO firmly believe that all the national people are fraternal people and that we should stop the fighting and killing among ourselves and discuss each other's conditions frankly and openly at a roundtable and hold consultations.

[DVOB] What kind of major agreements were reached at the talks?

[Daw San Aung] We still have not received reports that a major agreement has been reached and signed.

[DVOB] Yes....

[Daw San Aung] The major objective of the talks is to halt the civil war.

[DVOB] In holding separate talks with the SLORC, [words indistinct] policies of the Democratic Alliance of Burma [DAB]?

[Daw San Aung] As mentioned earlier, we are continuing the talks with the objective of achieving a limited cease-fire.

[DVOB] Do you believe that a cease-fire in Kachin State and the entire country will lead to genuine democracy and peace?

[Daw San Aung] As I mentioned earlier, we believe that only if we first stop the fratricidal killing by halting the civil war and hold talks and face each other across a table to discuss the issues frankly and present each other's wishes, will we be able to achieve democracy and other rights, such as human rights. First, however, the civil war must be halted.

[DVOB] Another question I would like to ask is that in holding talks with the SLORC, does the KIO represent itself alone or the DAB?

[Daw San Aung] We are participating in the talks as the KIO. However, we are still striving to enable other organizations to join in the talks on a nationwide scale.

[DVOB] In the 1990 May elections, the people of Kachin State voted against the SLORC [words indistinct]. Do you think the holding of talks with the SLORC runs counter to the wishes of the Kachin voters?

[Daw San Aung] The KIO is an opposition organization which represents the people of Kachin State. We are currently holding talks in order to obtain a military cease-fire.

[DVOB] Have you discussed other political issues [words indistinct] apart from the cease-fire at the talks?

[Daw San Aung] The talks have dealt entirely with the military issue. The SLORC has stated that it is a military government and the political issues will be dealt with by the next government. We are holding talks with the objective of obtaining a cease-fire in the civil war.

[DVOB] Do the cease-fire talks cover the issue of territory [words indistinct]?

[Daw San Aung] The talks have covered these issues [words indistinct]. That is how the cease-fire is to be observed militarily.

[DVOB] Is the agreement (?like) the ones signed with the Wa [words indistinct] which entails no surrender?

[Daw San Aung] As no agreement has been signed, I do not know the details.

[DVOB] Does the KIO believe that the current political problem in Burma, that of the national races, can be solved by reaching a cease-fire agreement?

[Daw San Aung] We do not believe any political solution can be obtained without a cease-fire.

[DVOB] When the agreement is reached, what will be the (?future) of students and (?our representatives) who fled to Kachin State [words indistinct]?

[Daw San Aung] The KIO says it is holding talks with the main objective of obtaining a cease-fire and (?halting) the civil war. The desire of all organizations at the central KIO as well as in Kachin State and other opposition organizations for a nationwide cease-fire is identical. First, it will be necessary to halt the civil war.

Rebel Alliance Said To Consider Ousting Kachins

BK0610054793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Oct 93 p 11

[Text] Manerplaw—The anti-Rangoon Democratic Alliance of Burma [DAB] is ready to oust the Kachin Independent Organisation (KIO) from the alliance if it is found that the KIO's recent cease-fire agreement with Rangoon violated DAB regulations, announced the group's leader. DAB chairman Gen Saw Bo Mya said he

will call a meeting with other DAB members soon to discuss on matter and will give the KIO a chance to clear itself regarding the conditions of the cease-fire agreement it made with the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] on October 1.

The KIO is one of many ethnic groups in Burma fighting the military regime in Rangoon. The organisation was set up on February 5, 1961. It was among the 21 anti-Rangoon groups which established the DAB in November 1988. The KIO is the second-largest group smaller only to the Karen National Union.

Last week, it was reported that eight KIO delegates, headed by KIO deputy chairman Saw Mai, had reached a peace agreement with delegates of the ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council, headed by the powerful SLORC first general secretary Lt-Gen Khin Kyunt, at Myitkyina, the capital city of Kachin state, some 300 kilometres north of Rangoon.

"To make the ceasefire with SLORC by ignoring the regulations of the DAB is like defeat," Gen Bo Mya said. "The KIO has to make its own choice, whether it will co-operate with the SLORC or still be with the DAB."

Gen Bo Mya, who also is president of the Karen National Union, said that before peace negotiation can begin, Rangoon must make the first public announcement, the negotiations must assume equal status, and any talks must be held in another third country. While the negotiations proceed, the armed ethnic groups must not lay down their weapons until the conditions of negotiation have been settled by both concerned sides, he said. He also said the negotiation must have the goal of ending the people's war, with the aim of unity or a federated union in which all ethnic groups have political, economic and social freedom.

According to Gen Bo Mya, he had heard about the KIO-SLORC negotiation from a Kachin delegate, Dr Tu Ja, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of KIO, who is the Joint Secretary for Finance of DAB.

The KIO chairman, Mr Brang Seng, who also is first vice chairman of the DAB, went to Rangoon to contact the SLORC but never told the DAB, said Gen Bo Mya. He said the KNU, the New Mon State Party, and the Karen National Progressive Party had fought for their freedom for 45 years and have negotiated with Rangoon three times in the past—in 1949, 1960 and 1962. All negotiations failed, he said.

In 1960 the Karen president, Saw Ba U Gyi, who headed the negotiation team, was assassinated between the Karen border area and Rangoon. Gen Bo Mya said he himself wants to end the war, which has made Burma one of the world's poorest countries, despite its wealth of natural resources. Following the SLORC seizure of power in 1988 he sent three letters to SLORC on three different occasions via the Burmese embassy in

Bangkok, to invite Rangoon leaders to meet for discussion to end the battle, he said.

The first time was on behalf of KNU to the former SLORC chairman Gen Saw Maung, in November 1989. The second and third letters, dated April 23 and August 17 of this year, were sent to the present SLORC chairman, Gen Than Shwe. None received a response he said.

Meanwhile, delegates from countries worldwide attending the UN General Assembly in late November to debate Burmese affairs are expected to urge Rangoon to open peace talks with dissident groups such as the DAB. The sponsors of the motion include the United States, Canada, the European Community and friendly countries interested in Burmese affairs who want to see peace return to the country, according to sources. DAB chairman Gen Saw Bo Mya's letter to SLORC chairman Gen Than Shwe in August proposed a political solution to problems in Burma.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir Returns From UN; Comments on Somalia

BK0510142493 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1300 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir has expressed regret over the death of a member of the Malaysian battalion who was killed in action while serving in the UN peace-keeping force in Somalia. The prime minister extended his condolences to the family of Private Mat Aznan Awang. He said the country has to accept the reality of losing members of its Armed Forces in any UN operation.

Dr. Mahathir was speaking to reporters on his return to Kuala Lumpur after attending the 48th UN General Assembly in New York, and a three-day unofficial visit to Japan.

The prime minister said Malaysia cannot withdraw from operations in Somalia solely because of the dangerous situation. He added that he hopes members of the Malaysian battalion will continue to carry out their duties safely. He described the incident as very sadening because, earlier, the battalion was said to be merely involved in food supply operations. He felt that the attack might have been inspired from dissatisfaction of the people toward the UN following actions by certain quarters.

Urge West To Help Russia

BK0610075993 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0430 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Oct. 6 (OANA-BERNAMA)— Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said Tuesday Western nations should help Russia and other former Soviet republics to move from a command economy to a market economy.

This was necessary to ensure that the situation in these countries was under control and not unstable or in a state of upheaval, he told reporters at the airport on his return from an unofficial visit to Tokyo. Dr. Mahathir had earlier attended the 48th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. He said leaders of Western nations should [words indistinct] of these countries by providing information and knowledge on the managing of a market economy. So long as the Western nations, which have strongly advocated democracy and a market economy to Eastern countries, do not help them, the communist nations will remain unstable, he said.

He said it was because of this that former Russian leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who attempted to bring about economic changes, was toppled and his successor, Boris Yeltsin, faced problems.

Asked for his comments on the ongoing upheaval in Russia, he said this was anticipated and that Malaysia had told British and United States leaders that the transition in the economic system to Russia was not an easy one, considering that Russia had been practising a command economy for 70 years. The prime minister said the upheaval in Russia was not owing to any fault of their leaders but owing to their lack of experience in bringing about a smooth transition.

As a result of the drastic change in the economic system, there had been food shortages and other problems [words indistinct] and unemployment among soldiers, he said, adding that (?these) resulted in instability, not only in Russia but also in the other Soviet republics. The recent upheaval in Russia resulted when several leaders, including Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy and Parliament's chairman, Ruslan Khasbulatov, attempted to take over power and dismiss Russian President Boris Yeltsin after Yeltsin dissolved Parliament two weeks ago.

Policemen Return After Duty in Cambodia

BK0210110393 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0945 GMT 2 Oct 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Oct 2 (OANA/BERNAMA)—The last batch of 71 Malaysian policemen who served under the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) returned home Saturday after a 17-month stint. Team leader Mohd Salleh Abu Bakar and his men were received at the air force base in Subang near here by family members, friends and senior police officers. Salleh told reporters the other 32 countries which sent

policemen to Cambodia withdrew their contingents as soon as the general elections there concluded in May. He said the Malaysians did not face any problem in discharging their duties, except in communicating with the villagers who speak only the local dialects.

We had to get interpreters fluent in English and French to help us, said Salleh, who was in charge of some 200 policemen from 18 countries based at Kompong Thom, about 120 km from the capital Phnom Penh. The first batch of 221 Malaysian policemen returned home on Sept 22.

Singapore

Goh Pledges Help in Sustaining SRV's Growth

BK0610100793 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 6 Oct 93 p 1

[By Salim Osman]

[Text] Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong last night told Vietnam that Singapore and the other ASEAN countries shared common interest in the continuing success of its doi moi or economic renovation programme. He said that peace and stability in South-east Asia could not be maintained if 70 million Vietnamese did not prosper.

"We will do all we can to help Vietnam sustain its current robust economic growth," he said at a dinner he hosted in honour of the visiting Vietnamese Communist Party general secretary Do Muoi at the Istana [Palace]. The prime minister said that increasing cooperation with Singapore and ASEAN would pave the way for Vietnam to become integrated with the Asia-Pacific community. The 76-year-old Vietnamese party chief arrived here yesterday for a four-day official visit as a guest of Mr. Goh.

Accompanying him is a delegation comprising senior party officials, including Political Bureau member Le Phuoc Tho, External Affairs Commission chairman Hong Ha, Deputy Prime Minister Tran Duc Luong and Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam.

Mr. Muoi was received by the prime minister at a ceremonial welcome at the Istana grounds shortly after his arrival. He paid a courtesy call on President Ong Teng Cheong at the state room after the ceremony.

At the dinner, Mr. Goh said he welcomed Vietnam's efforts in rejoining the regional community, with its accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation last year, its presence at the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting last July and its participation in next year's Asean Forum on political and security issues. He noted the rapid inflow of foreign investment and Vietnam's increasing trade with ASEAN rather than East European countries and said that Vietnam was well-placed to become another dynamic East Asian economy. He said he was pleased

that Singapore had signed agreements in the last two years in such areas as air services, shipping, trade and, investment guarantee.

"These agreements enhance the confidence of Singapore investors in developing economic ties with Vietnam," he said. He also noted that Vietnam had accepted the recommendation of an Infrastructure Task Force sent by Singapore to assess the country's infrastructure requirements. The task force was financed by the Indochina Assistance Fund which Singapore had set up for technical assistance, training, and consultancy.

He told Mr. Muoi: "We are marching into an even more hopeful chapter in our bilateral relations. Your visit to Singapore has given our relations further impetus."

In his speech, the Vietnamese leader stressed Vietnam's desire to broaden ties with the Asia-Pacific region.

"We pay great attention to multi-faceted cooperation with each ASEAN country and ASEAN as a whole," he said in Vietnamese. He reiterated Hanoi's stand that Vietnam was prepared to join the six-member regional grouping at an appropriate time. Mr. Muoi also noted Singapore's position as Vietnam's largest trading partner and top ASEAN investor.

"We welcome and sincerely thank the Singapore Government for the importance it attaches to the promotion of relations with Vietnam," he added. Mr. Muoi, who held talks with Mr. Goh yesterday afternoon, told the gathering that he was satisfied with the meeting. He said that they shared similar perceptions on many regional and international issues and other matters of mutual concern.

Earlier the Vietnamese leader, who is here on the first leg of a regional tour told reporters at the airport that he had a long list of proposals to be presented to Singapore leaders to further enhance bilateral ties. Mr. Muoi is scheduled to meet Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew today. He will also visit the Port of Singapore Authority, the Civil Aviation Authority, Jurong Town Corporation, and the Housing Board.

Cambodia

Thailand Reportedly Draws Down Support for KR

BK0610072593 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Commentary: "Thailand Increases Pressure on the Khmer Rouge"]

[Text] According to sources in Bangkok, another sign showing the efforts of the Royal Thai Government to cooperate with the new Royal National Government of Cambodia [RNGC] is that a unit of Thai special forces with the task of liaising with high-ranking Khmer Rouge leaders, including special protection for Pol Pot, has

been dissolved. This Thai unit, code named Special Unit 838, used to have wide responsibility in communicating with the Marxist guerrillas, including ensuring security for Khmer Rouge leaders during their travels in Thailand and providing facilities in the transport of war materiel and in financial affairs to the guerrillas. During the civil war, this unit also had the responsibility of liaising with former noncommunist resistance forces that allied themselves with the Khmer Rouge.

According to a source who requested anonymity, a spying unit has also been disbanded. In the words of a high-ranking Thai army general, the conflict on the Cambodian problem has ended based on the fact that a national government has been officially formed and that Prince Norodom Sihanouk has become king in Cambodia and the country's leader. The prince's reascension to the throne has led the international community to believe that he can successfully solve the civil war problem among all Cambodian groups in the kingdom. The promulgation of the constitution by the king and the establishment of the RNGC with Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh as first prime minister and His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen as second prime minister enabled the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] to successfully end its 18-month mandate in Cambodia despite the Khmer Rouge group's accusation that thousands of Vietnamese troops have disguised themselves and are living among millions of Vietnamese settlers in Cambodia. Be that as it may, the Khmer Rouge group, through the broadcasts of its clandestine radio, has welcomed the reascension to the throne of King Norodom Sihanouk.

The war raging in Cambodia for the past more than 13 years is very much related to Thailand which in the past provided a number of bases and living quarters to resistance groups on some part of Thai territory and which also provided assistance in the transport of materiel and supplies through Thailand. Over the past decade, Special Unit 838, which is part of Task Force 88 in charge of security along the Cambodian-Thai border, played a major role, particularly in liaising with Khmer Rouge leaders.

In the view of observers who follow the Cambodian problem, the dissolution of Task Force 88 a few months ago, and now the dissolution of Unit 838, constitute pressure from the Royal Thai Government as well as from the Thai military circles on the Khmer Rouge to force the latter to accept peaceful coexistence with the RNGC, to allow access to the zone they control, and to hand that zone over to the royal government.

At present Thailand has undertaken a number of activities to pressure the Khmer Rouge to show the international community that Thailand no longer provides any support to the outlawed Khmer Rouge rebels because Thailand is also a signatory of the Paris agreement. It has also been observed that Khmer Rouge leaders are facing difficulties because their combatants are tired of the protracted fighting over the years. Thousands of these

combatants have surrendered to join society and the nation under the leadership of King Norodom Sihanouk whom they believe to be the only Cambodian leader capable of ending the war in Cambodia and leading the country to glory as an island of peace in Southeast Asia.

Government Establishes New Mekong Committee

BK0410121593 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 3 Oct 93

[Text] The Royal National Government of Cambodia [RNGC]:

With reference to the constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia,

With reference to the decree issued by His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk Varaman on 24 September 1993 appointing the first and second prime ministers of the RNGC;

With reference to the 10 October 1989 Order on the organization and activities of the Cambodian National Mekong Committee [CNMC], and;

With reference to the CNMC's proposal;

Orders that:

Article 1. A new CNMC whose composition is as follows be set up:

1. Chairman: His Excellency [H.E.] Ing Kiet, state minister;

2. Vice chairman: H.E. Mok Maret, minister of environment;

3. Member: Representative of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries;

4. Member: Representative of the Ministry of Public Works;

5. Member: Representative of the Ministry of Energy and Mines;

6. Member: Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation;

7. Member: Representative of the Ministry of Transport;

8. Member: Representative of the Ministry of Religious Affairs;

9. Member: Representative of the Ministry of Rural Development;

10. Permanent secretary: Mr. (Kim Mili), head of the Agriculture Ministry office; and

11. Deputy permanent secretary: Mr. (Tho Limthat), deputy chief of the Hydrology, Meteorology, and Energy Department.

Article 2. The CNMC's role and function as stipulated in Articles 1 and 2 of the 10 October 1989 Order remain unchanged.

Article 3. The ministers in charge of the office of the Council of Ministers as well as all relevant ministers and heads of institutions, provinces, and municipalities are charged with implementing this order as of the day it is signed.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 29 September 1993

[Signed] For the RNGC: Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh, first prime minister; H.E. Hun Sen, second prime minister

Late Sept Situation in Northern Regions Noted

BK0410042993 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 2 Oct 93

[Text] According to the Third Department of the Khmer Royal Armed Forces [KRAF], the military situation early in the last week of September was marked by an increase in the activities of the Army of Democratic Kampuchea [ADK] who destroyed the bridges, roads, and property of our people in a number of districts in northern Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province.

On 26, 27, and 28 September, the ADK fired many 107-mm and DK-75 shells on our positions in Banteay Srei District, at Sre Noy, and at Chrey in Samraong District. Meanwhile, they broke up into small groups to lay mines on bridges and ambush our KRAF operational units, putting pressure on the local people not to leave their towns or forcibly using them to carry ammunition. In some localities, such as in Svay Leu and Khvav, they even evacuated the people to Anlung Veng.

At the same time, ADK forces were building defense networks at Phnum Khsak to resist our forces. They also planted many land mines on the main trails.

On 27 September the ADK fired several 107-mm shells which landed on a spot south of Nimit, which is a position of the 42d Regiment. As a result, one of our combatants was injured. On the same day they also fired three DK-75 shells on the Namtau area northeast of Phnum Srok and ordered the people not to use the roads.

Also during the early part of the last week of September, the ADK mustered forces in an attempt to capture our position in Choam Khsan District, Preah Vihear Province.

Meanwhile, the KRAF exercised their right of self-defense with remarkable results. From 26 to 28 September the KRAF, including the 2d, 3d, 5th, 179th, and 286th Divisions and the 41st and 101st Regiments of the Siem Reap provincial operation zone and the 4th Military Region coordinated self-defense actions in areas in the northern part of Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, including Svay Leu, Varin, Angkor Chum, Banteay

Srei, and Samraong Districts. In all, 13 ADK soldiers were shot dead, seven were captured, and 22 assorted weapons and hundreds of landmines were seized. Five rice huskers and a large quantity of assorted ammunition were also seized. At the same time, three ADK soldiers voluntarily returned to the national community.

In Kompong Chhnang Province from 25 to 27 September the 14th and 50th Naval Battalions together with the province's operational units exercised their right of self-defense at Samraong Sen in Kompong Leng District. As a result, they seized 43 enemy weapons, including 14 AK's and 29 SKS's, 10 boats, and some 60-mm mortar shells. They welcomed back to the national fold a defector from the 785th Division.

In Kompong Cham Province from 23 to 28 September, the KRAF of the 2d Military Region exercised their right of self-defense in Memot District against the command post of the ADK 920th Division led by Kham Sien. As a result, we captured three ADK soldiers, welcomed back to the fold 22 voluntary defectors, seized 19 weapons, burned down 15 barracks, and took possession of two trucks, a power saw, a rice husker, a tractor, and some war materiel.

'Priceless' Artifacts Said Removed From Angkor

BK0510084793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST (INSIDE INDOCHINA supplement) in English 5 Oct 93 p 1

[By Nutsara Thaithawat]

[Text] A total of 162 priceless stone artifacts from the ancient temple city of Angkor have been quietly removed from the local conservation office to Phnom Penh in a controversial mission explained as a bid to save the works of art from the Khmer Rouge. What opponents describe as a "secret mission" was said to have been carried out with a letter of approval from Cambodian co-Presidents Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen, a Cambodian source told INSIDE INDOCHINA.

The artifacts, dating back to the ninth-to-14th centuries, were airlifted from the Angkor Conservation Office in Siem Reap, the northwestern Cambodian province that is home to the temple city, to the Royal Palace in Phnom Penh early last month, the sources added. The head of the conservation office had to comply with their removal when presented with what effectively was a letter of authorisation from the government co-presidents, the sources noted.

"They chose only the most beautiful pieces," a Cambodian conservation expert in Siem Reap who witnessed the "secret mission" told INSIDE INDOCHINA.

"Vishnu lintels, the statues of Shiva, the heads of the Lord Buddha, and the statues of deities...all were beautiful pieces," he said. To him, the artifacts are priceless. They had been taken from the temple city for storage at

the Angkor Conservation Office, run by Siem Reap provincial authorities, to save them from thieves.

"I don't know what to say, I don't like it," the conservationist said of their removal from the office. The "secret mission" members took seven days to select the pieces and two days to pack and ship them out by air.

Vice Culture Minister Michel Tranet, a member of Ranariddh's FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] and the dean of the Archaeology Department of Phnom Penh University, was said to have been among the experts who conducted the selection. The removal of the priceless pieces coincided with the forced closure, on September 7, of the Siem Reap office of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). The UNESCO conservation office is located in the same compound as that run by Siem Reap provincial authorities.

The mission followed deep concern expressed by Cambodian government leaders over the loss of the country's cultural property, notably irreplaceable stone artifacts, through illicit trade. The point was emphasised by Cambodian Culture Minister Nut Narang during the September 15-18 visit to Cambodia of a delegation from the Thai Education Ministry. Narang also noted government concern that the Khmer Rouge might raid the Angkor Conservation Office, sources in the Thai delegation told INSIDE INDOCHINA.

The conservation office has been robbed three times this year, local sources said. The identity of the perpetrators remains in doubt. Differences remain on the most effective measures for ending the racket. These contentious issues were the subjects of a high-level meeting recently convened in Phnom Penh, informed Cambodian sources told INSIDE INDOCHINA. The State of Cambodia (SOC) has consistently accused the Khmer Rouge of being perpetrators. But others have pointed the finger at SOC soldiers.

"The Khmer Rouge are not known for this kind of thing, I think it's more the SOC army," commented one informed observer.

Son Soubert, who holds a National Assembly seat in Battambang province for the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party, and is an archaeologist by training, reportedly disagreed with a proposal by Minister of State Van Molivan of the Cambodian People's Party to airlift the artifacts to Phnom Penh.

"It's costly and dangerous—what if there's an accident?" Soubert was reported to have told the meeting. He noted a conventional method used to store artifacts during times of political instability was to put them in an underground, fortified silo. But his suggestion reportedly was knocked down by Molivan who said the method was applied during the Lon Nol period (1970-75) to no effect. The conservation expert applauded any intention to save the artifacts from theft but queried the "secret mission".

"That's not the way to safeguard priceless artifacts, airlifting 162 pieces to the Royal Palace. What about the rest here (at the Angkor Conservation Office) and those still on the monuments of Angkor," the expert asked.

"The Government should say what it will do with the artifacts. Simply store them in the Royal Palace—until when? We want to make sure all the 162 pieces are really at the Royal Palace."

UNESCO officially reopened its office in Siem Reap after receiving an explanation from the Government for the office's forced closure lasting three days. The Government explanation is unclear.

Indonesia

Former Envoy on Cessation of U.S. Military Aid

BK0410140493 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 4 Oct 93

[Text] The cessation of U.S. military training programs to Indonesia is not caused by U.S. concern over Indonesia's military buildup, but is due to that country's own economic slump. Speaking in Jakarta, Hasnan Habib, former Indonesian ambassador to the United States, said that the total amount of foreign military aid approved by the U.S. Senate has been reduced by U.S.\$1.9 billion when compared to the previous year. Hasnan Habib attributed this to strong domestic pressure to reduce the U.S. deficit and foreign aid against the background of that country's own economic slump. He noted that in the U.S. Foreign Aid Act, signed by President Clinton last Thursday, Indonesia now belongs in the category of countries which will no longer receive U.S. military training programs for the 1994 fiscal year. However, the cessation of such aid will not affect Indonesia because its military officers can still seek training programs from West European countries, such as France, Britain, or Germany.

Trade Promotion Agreement Signed With Burma

BK0110135193 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1109 GMT 1 Oct 93

[Text] Jakarta, Oct 1 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesian products have a big chance to replace other products from other Asian countries, such as Singapore, China, Taiwan and South Korea, in the Myanmar [Burma] market, a noted businessmen said.

"We have to snatch the opportunity. If other Asian countries managed to penetrate the country's market why not Indonesia," President of PT. [Company Limited] Prima Comexido Hashim S. Joyohadikusumo told the press after the signing of an agreement between Indonesian minister for trade and his counterpart of Myanmar here Thursday. He urged Indonesian businessmen not to be worried in doing business with their counterpart from Myanmar as the development of transportation and trade facilities will follow them.

"If we are worried to do business with Myanmarese businessmen how can we do business with other countries of the south that we're really promoting now," he said.

Talks With Suriname on Promoting Cooperation

BK0110135793 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1105 GMT 1 Oct 93

[Text] Jakarta, Oct 1 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesia and Suriname have agreed to take all necessary measures to encourage and develop economic and technical cooperation within the framework of the agreement on economic and technical cooperation between the two nations, the Indonesian Foreign Affairs Ministry said Friday. According to the joint communique signed by Indonesian Foreign Affairs Minister Ali Alatas and his Suriname counterpart Subhas Mungra in Suriname recently, the two ministers agreed that discussions between both governments regarding the conclusion of a treaty concerning the avoidance of double taxation will take place on short term.

The two ministers noted with satisfaction the growing interest of the respective private sectors to increase the level of mutual cooperation in various fields. They recommended that their respective private sectors should be fully involved in deliberations about bilateral trade and investment, and deemed it advisable that representatives of this sector should form part of national delegations whenever trade and investments are to be discussed.

Alatas visited Suriname from September 19 through 21 at the invitation of his counterpart Subhas Mungra. During his visit, Alatas paid a courtesy calls on President Ronald Venetiaan, Vice President Jules Ajodhia, Minister for Social Affairs and Housing Willie Soemita and Speaker of the National Assembly Jagernath Lachmon.

In a meeting at the Suriname Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Alatas and Mungra discussed a wide range of international and bilateral issues as well as specific matters of mutual concern.

Mungra mentioned the important contribution by Indonesia to the Non-Aligned Movement, of which both countries are members and which is presently chaired by Indonesia, one of the founding members.

Canada Supports Loan for Electricity Projects

BK0310080093 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 23 Sep 93 p 2

[Text] Lawrence T. Dickenson, Canadian ambassador to Indonesia, announced Canada's provision of a U.S.\$245-million loan for the establishment of two electricity projects. The loan was given through the Export Development Board of Canada (EDC). Two Canadian companies will be participating in the projects. Babcock & Wilcox Industries Limited will provide three boiler units and relevant equipment during the third stage of

construction of the National Electricity Board's steam-powered plant in Suralaya District. Westinghouse Canada, Inc. will provide two gas-powered turbines for the establishment of a gas turbine-powered plant in Bali. Benjamin Parwoto, director general, officials from the Budget Planning Department in the Finance Department, and some EDC officials signed the agreement. This is the first loan received by Indonesia from a private sector lender.

Military Leaders Call on Leading Dissident

BK0410155493 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1514 GMT 4 Oct 93

[Text] Jakarta, Oct. 4 (OANA-ANTARA)—Armed Forces Commander General Feisal Tanjung on Monday visited former Coordinating Minister for Security and Defense retired General A.H. Nasution who just returned from a medical treatment in the United States. He came along with Army Chief of Staff Gen. Wismoyo Arismunandar, Navy Chief of Staff Vice Admiral Tanto Kuswanto, Air Force Chief of Staff Vice Marshall Rilo Pambudi and Police Chief Lieutenant General Banurusan. During the meeting, Nasution disclosed that he would come to the commemoration of the 48th anniversary of the Indonesian Armed Forces on Tuesday.

"But I might not follow the ceremony until the end because of my eyes condition," he said. He said he could not stand sunshine for a long time yet. The meeting lasted for about 20 minutes at Nasution's home with a lot of reporters attending. Gen. Feisal Tanjung had inquired about his condition after operation on his eyes and heard his account of the operation process.

"The hospital said I am a strong old general during operation," Nasution said. He said the operation at Saint Mary Hospital in San Francisco on September 24 lasted for 60 minutes.

He admitted he was more relaxed in going to the United States this time. "The first time I went there while I was coordinating minister, I had to play tennis with the air force minister the morning after I arrived so I played only to pass the ball. Now I was relaxed because I was no longer a militaryman," he said.

Nasution, now 75 years old, was accompanied by Dr. Bondan, the head of the Army Hospital during medical treatment in the United States. He said the development of his eyes condition after operation would be checked again in two months time.

This was the second meeting between the armed forces commander and Nasution after the last one in the Army Hospital on July 13. At the time, Gen. Feisal Tanjung came along with Defense Minister Edi Sudradjat, Coordinating Minister for Security and Political Affairs Susilo Sudarman and Deputy Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Suryadi. Army Chief of Staff Wismoyo visited the general before his departure.

Nasution's condition is top. "Examination and operation are already complete. We, however, will have to see the development," Dr. Bondan said adding "If condition requires further treatment in the U.S., we will take him there again."

"We will make the best effort for him," he said. Dr. Bondan said the operation process had been videotaped and the tape would be contributed for scientific study purposes.

Navy Units on Alert To Protect Fishermen

BK0410021993 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 4 Oct 93

[Text] Indonesian Navy units based at Belawan, Medan have remained on full alert to protect local fishermen since foreign vessels recently opened fire to terrorize local fishermen in waters around Meulaboh. Lieutenant Colonel Hasnul Ruslan, head of the Security Service of the First Main Naval Base at Belawan, said the Indonesian Navy had searched hundreds of foreign fishing vessels since the incident. However, no weapons were found and none of the vessels violated any permits. The First Main Naval Base at Belawan, which has the duty to protect eastern and western Sumatera waters, has mobilized three warships—KRI [Republic of Indonesia Ship] Multatuli, KRI Martadinata, and KRI Martha Christina Tiahahu. He said the foreign vessels that had terrorized the local fishermen were believed to have left Indonesian waters.

Laos

DPRK People's Assembly Delegation Arrives

BK0510063593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] In response to an invitation of Saman Vi-gnaket, chairman of the National Assembly of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], a high-level delegation of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly led by Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the DPRK Supreme People's Council, arrived in Vientiane this morning for an official friendship visit to Laos. A welcome ceremony for the high-level delegation of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly was held in an honorable manner at the National Assembly Hall in Vientiane at 1130 this morning. The Korean delegation was accorded a warm welcome by Saman Vi-gnaket, chairman of the National Assembly; members of the National Assembly; and a number of cadres concerned.

Meets Lao Assembly Delegation

BK0610080193 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] At 1450 yesterday at the National Assembly Meeting Hall, the delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] National Assembly held talks

with the visiting delegation of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly. After the talks, Chaleun Yiapaoheu, member of the National Assembly and chief of the Secretariat Commission of the National Assembly, gave an interview to Lao national radio reporters on the outcome of the talks:

[Begin Chaleun recording] The two delegations held talks at the National Assembly Meeting Hall. First of all, Saman Vi-gnaket welcomed the visit to Laos by the high-level delegation of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly. This first visit by the Korean delegation is regarded as a milestone of the [word indistinct], or the relations between the two legislative institutions of the two countries—the LPDR and the DPRK. Next, Saman Vi-gnaket informed the guests of the internal developments in the country, including the geographical and historical fields. Particularly, he noted the success of the implementation of the renovation policy of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party based on the six principles for implementing renovation and the restructuring achievements in the recent years. He also informed the DPRK delegation of the activities carried out both inside and outside the country by the LPDR parliament.

Further, he expressed his view on the relations between the parties, governments, and peoples, of the LPDR and the DPRK, as well as between their parliaments. This visit is regarded as the continuation of expansion of the success of the visit to the DPRK by the respected and beloved late President Kaysone Phomvihan in the past years. This visit will create more favorable conditions for the expanding of relations between the parliaments of the two countries. It will also help strengthen the solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between the LPDR and the DPRK.

The DPRK Supreme People's Assembly chairman expressed his satisfaction with the warm and hospitable welcome accorded to him by the LPDR National Assembly. He highly valued such welcome as an expression of special friendship and hospitality to the high-level delegation of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly.

He then reported on the developments and success of implementing the policy of the Workers Party of Korea, under the leadership of Kim Il-song, great leader of the Korean people, and under the supervision of Kim Chong-il, much-beloved leader of the Korean people. In so doing, the Korean people have successfully attained victories in many aspects.

In addition, he informed the Lao side of developments in implementing foreign policies of the DPRK and the success of the DPRK in carrying out activities both inside and outside the country, as well as the progress of efforts for Korean unification and making the Korean Peninsula a peninsula of peace.

That is the outcome of the talks between the two delegations. Both sides expressed their satisfaction with each other regarding the relations between the two legislative

institutions, as well as between the LPDR National Assembly and the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly. The visit by the Korean delegation will continue until 9 October. [end recording]

PASASON Editorial Welcomes Visit

BK0510105993 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Editorial from the 5 October issue of PASASON: "Wholeheartedly Welcoming the High-Level Delegation of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly"]

[Text] In response to an invitation by Saman Vi-gnaket, chairman of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] National Assembly, a high-level delegation from the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly—led by Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly—will pay an official visit to the LPDR from 5 to 9 October 1993.

On this glorious occasion, members of the LPDR National Assembly and residents of the capital, Vientiane, together with their fellow countrymen throughout the country, are very pleased to have the opportunity to express their sincere love and brotherly high respect for the state guests. They bring the solidarity and intimate friendship of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly members and the courageous Korean people to us, the Lao people.

The Lao and Korean peoples, as well as the two countries of Laos and Korea, have long enjoyed a tradition of solidarity and mutual assistance. The DPRK has always supported the cause of building and defending Laos, not only during the national liberation struggle but also during the period of building the new regime. Under the correct leadership of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, past and present, the Lao people have firmly supported the cause of defending and building Korea under the guidance of the Korean Workers Party, led by the Korean people's Great Leader President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il, much loved leader of the Korean people. The Lao people have strongly supported the Korean people's struggle for national unification through peaceful means, especially the 10-point proposal recently announced by President Kim Il-song for Korean unification and peace and security in the Korean Peninsula, as well as peace in this region and the world.

Meetings and talks will be held between the two sides on the occasion of the friendly visit to the LPDR by Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, and his delegation. Yang Hyong-sop will lead the high-level delegation from the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly in paying courtesy calls on the LPDR president and prime minister, and visiting various construction projects and economic and cultural establishments in Vientiane and other places.

Therefore, apart from contributing significantly to the development of cooperation and exchange of lessons

between the LPDR National Assembly and the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, the visit by the high-level delegation from the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly will gradually enhance and further promote the long-standing solidarity and friendship between the Lao and Korean peoples.

The multiethnic Lao people sincerely wish glorious success to Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, and the delegation in their official and friendly visit to the LPDR.

We believe that the outcome of this very meaningful visit to the LPDR by the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly delegation will serve as a new step in the promotion and expansion of cooperation—not only in the technical field but also in other fields—between the LPDR National Assembly and the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly. This will greatly contribute to the strengthening of cooperation in various fields between the two countries, as well as the two peoples of Laos and Korea, so that it will grow and flourish forever.

Foreign Minister Receives Message From Cuba

BK0110080793 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 1 Oct 93

[Text] Last month, Somsavat Lengsavat, minister of foreign affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], received a letter of thanks from Roberto Robaina Gonzalez, minister of foreign relations of the Republic of Cuba, for the humanitarian assistance given by the LPDR to the Cuban people, who were affected by natural disasters earlier this year.

The letter reads: We are extremely thankful for the generosity and kindness shown by the party, Government, and people of Laos in providing assistance to us, the Cuban people, to ease the hardship our country has been facing. Through this letter, we would like to convey the deep gratitude of our party, Government, and people. We would like to inform you, comrade, that we highly value your clear-sighted attitude, which is conducive to the promotion of the solidarity and friendship between our two countries. It is our most profound desire to reaffirm our determination to continue working to gradually improve the relations of friendship and cooperation between the parties, governments, and peoples of our two countries.

PASASON Praises National Assembly Session

BK0510122193 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Editorial from the 5 October issue of PASASON: "Hail the Success of the Second Ordinary Session of the Third National Assembly"]

[Text] Respected listeners: The second ordinary session of the Third National Assembly, which opened on 27 September, proceeded in an energetic and enthusiastic

atmosphere and closed with glorious success on 2 October. During the session, members of the National Assembly took the initiative in exercising their democratic rights to study, discuss, and give their views on various issues. They unanimously approved various significant documents in a spirit of enhancing political responsibility.

The success of this second ordinary session of the Third National Assembly is considered a success toward further organizing and putting into actual practice our party's comprehensive restructuring plan; a success toward concretizing the strategic direction and tasks of the socioeconomic development plan for the period from now until the year 2000, especially the direction and tasks for 1994; and a success of the unique, high degree of solidarity of National Assembly members as the representatives of the multiethnic people of all strata in persistently exercising their rights and upholding their interests. It also marks a milestone in the growth and development, with a new quality, of the Third National Assembly.

In studying and discussing the government report on implementation of the socioeconomic plan and state budget for the 1992-93 fiscal year, the delegates to the session assessed that in 1993—though the country faced many difficult problems, both subjective and objective, such as natural disasters—with the persistence, endeavor, and initiative of the government and various services and localities, as well as the multiethnic people, we successfully made satisfactory achievements in many fields and securely defended the country. With these achievements, the economy and society have been developed and stabilized, the political situation has been secured, and tranquillity and public order in the country have been maintained.

Promoting and expanding the good points and our strength in natural resources, settling previous weak points and shortcomings, and based on our concrete financial potential, the session unanimously agreed, at a high level, to endorse the socioeconomic development plan and state budget for 1993-94. The session also reviewed the implementation of the constitution and laws and heard and discussed reports by the chairmen of the Supreme People's Court and the Public Prosecution Institute on the recent promulgation and enforcement of the constitution and laws. The delegates assessed that the constitution and laws, which have already been put into force, conform to present circumstances and serve the earnest requirements and aspirations of the multiethnic people of all strata. They noted that the people are also happy to have the constitution and laws to guarantee their democratic rights and their rights as owners of the country.

Various organizations charged with enforcing the law—such as the people's courts, public prosecution organizations, and police and military interrogation and investigation organizations—also possess basic tools to guarantee the increasingly effective performance of their

tasks. This is considered a new step in the development of the popular democratic system. It also marks a new milestone in managing the state through the enforcement of the law. At the same time, the delegates to the session also criticized weak points and shortcomings in the implementation of the constitution and laws. They attached importance to education and training aimed at creating a sense of awareness among citizens—as well as various party, state, and mass organizations at different levels—to respect the constitution and laws.

The session also reviewed and assessed the good and weak points of the Third National Assembly in organizing and carrying out activities to fulfill tasks since the day it was founded. Over the past seven months—or since its establishment on 20 February 1993—the Third National Assembly, as the legislative organization, has regularly carried out its full role and responsibilities as stipulated in the Constitution of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. In fulfilling its role and responsibilities, the Third National Assembly has concentrated on consolidating, strengthening, and coordinating work in the political, ideological, and organizational fields. As a result, a new and significant step has been achieved in the change of attitude and understanding of National Assembly members in connection with the roles, responsibilities, and limits of the assembly's rights, duties, and methods of carrying out activities in the new stage. A new trend and hope have also been created for the National Assembly to advance toward achieving a new quality in order to fulfill the political tasks entrusted to it by the party and people.

Simultaneously, the session criticized various weak points and shortcomings that must be promptly settled. Those weak points and shortcomings are, for example, the failure of National Assembly members to understand profoundly the attitudes, position, roles, responsibilities, and limits on the rights and duties of the National Assembly in the new stage; and the failure of auxiliary apparatuses of the National Assembly to serve the requirements of the new political tasks in the present stage due to a shortage of cadres, both in terms of quantity and quality.

The second session of the Third National Assembly successfully concluded as scheduled. But, to translate the success of this session into reality, a certain period of time and many significant steps are needed. It is, therefore, required that we make an increasing endeavor to overcome difficulties and obstacles so as bring into full play the success of the session, and turn it into a concrete movement of the people in each locality to produce goods, foodstuffs, money, income, and so forth with a view to improving the living conditions of the multi-ethnic people.

To achieve this successfully, it is necessary for all National Assembly members to heighten their spirit of political responsibility as representatives of the people and persistently exercise their rights and maintain their interests. The National Assembly members must also

publicize in their respective constituencies the success of the session—especially the socioeconomic development plan and stage budget for 1993-94 as endorsed by the assembly in this session—and then encourage and persuade them to take part in implementing and fulfilling the development plan and stage budget. At the same time, compatriots of all strata, all tribes, all ages, and both sexes—both at home and abroad—are required to promote and expand the patriotic tradition, the spirit of being owners of the country, and the spirit of perseverance and industriousness, and unite as one to implement successfully the tasks of defending and building the country, fulfilling the state socioeconomic development plan for 1993-94, and effectively implementing the constitution and laws.

Thailand

Deputy PM Addresses U.S. Businessmen on Trade

BK0610022793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
6 Oct 93 p 20

[Text] The Chuan Government yesterday emphasised its strong commitment to free and fair trade under international agreements and also vowed to seriously crack down on violations of intellectual property. Deputy Prime Minister Amnuai Wirawan made the pledges to American business leaders in New York City during a speech on US-Thai commercial opportunities. Mr Amnuai is accompanying the Thai delegation led by Prime Minister Chuan Likhpai who will address the United Nations General Assembly today.

The deputy prime minister told the American businessmen that Thailand would emphasise its full commitment to free and fair international trade under the rules of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and other internationally accepted regional arrangements. He said a recent crackdown on copyright violators showed Thailand's seriousness about accepting the principles of GATT and enforcing them.

He also said that as one of the few net food exporters in the world, Thailand stands behind the Blair House agreement and strongly supports the US drive for a breakthrough in agricultural negotiations currently holding up a successful completion of the Uruguay Round of GATT talks. In addition to supporting the GATT, Thailand is leading the way in promoting tariff cuts under the newly created ASEAN Free Trade Agreement, Mr Amnuai said.

"Our purpose is not to form a regional bloc; indeed, the opposite is true," he said. "We feel that by cutting regional tariff barriers, we make ourselves more attractive to foreign investors who have regional plans for either trade or investment, and we encourage foreign investors established in other ASEAN countries to do business with Thailand."

He also stressed the Government's approach to solving infrastructure problems by involving private-sector management and finance.

Mr Amnuai acknowledged that private-sector involvement in large projects has not always been smooth sailing, in part because of the inexperience of the Thai government in drafting contracts and dealing with projects of this magnitude. He cited the controversy surrounding the court-ordered opening of the second-stage expressway, a joint venture between Bangkok Expressway Co Ltd [BECL] and the Expressway and Rapid Transit Authority of Thailand [ETA].

He said that although he regretted the expressway controversy and agreed that both sides could have acted in a better manner, the ETA has guaranteed BECL's economic rights as defined in the agreement.

"I can absolutely assure you that this government is making every attempt to honor commitments to our private sector partners in this, as in every joint venture we have embarked upon."

He assured the American businessmen that Thailand's macro economic outlook is strong. Last year's economic growth of more than seven per cent is expected to remain steady this year with inflation well under control at less than five per cent.

The strains of double digit growth experienced in the 1980s have passed to a certain degree, and Thailand has demonstrated a stable performance in recent years. Even amid the worldwide recession of 1990-91, the country managed increases in export growth of 14 percent and 23 percent respectively. Last year, the figure was 13 percent. And in 1992, while overall private investment grew only marginally, foreign direct investment inflow was actually up four per cent, to \$US21 billion. As well, institutional foreign investors committed US\$400 million to the Thai stock market.

Daily Urges Clarification of Copyright Act

BK0210125593 Bangkok NAEONAI in Thai 2 Oct 93 p 4

[Editorial: "The Clear Truth That Ordinary People Want to Know"]

[Text] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai must have now left for the United States, taking with him the Copyright Act as a present for President Bill Clinton and the American people. The legislation was designed to protect U.S. intellectual property in Thailand in return for the removal of Thailand from the U.S. Priority Foreign Country [PFC] watchlist. Under Section 301 of the U.S. trade law, countries on the watchlist are subject to trade retaliation without warning. Although the United States has erased Thailand from the watchlist, it still keeps a close eye on our actions.

Prime Minister Chuan Likphai might feel somewhat embarrassed by the technical problem which occurred

during the process of passing the legislation because the opposition claims that the government has done too much in a bid to please the United States by passing such a law. Some even say that Thailand may have already been economically colonized by the United States. In this connection, the majority of ordinary people do not know how the law will affect them.

Prior to the deletion of Thailand from the PFC watchlist, the government kept telling the people that if Thailand were free from the U.S. trade retaliation, the country would greatly benefit from exporting goods worth hundreds of thousands million baht annually. That really sounded excellent. The government, in particular the Commerce Ministry, considered that it had made a proud achievement to have liberated Thailand from the U.S. threat. Ordinary people do not realize the magnitude of the damage Thailand will suffer if the United States refuses to take Thailand off the watchlist and impose heavy import duties on Thai goods. They also wonder if the United States is the only market on earth for Thailand to sell its products.

The School of Law of Chulalongkorn University recently reported that the protection of computer software by the Copyright Act will cause huge damage of not less than 60 billion baht to Thailand. Ordinary people also want to know if the estimated damage is true or not. If it is true, they also wonder why the government did not take action to prevent such damage or pass another law to specifically deal with computer software.

There should be someone in the government who can tell the people the exact amount of damage the ordinary naive Thai person will suffer as a result of enforcing the legislation.

Government Attempts To Speed Up Free Trade

BK0610021393 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Oct 93 p 10

[Text] Thailand is ready to slash its list of goods excluded from the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA)'s tariff reduction programme, Deputy Finance Minister Trairong Suwankhiri said here yesterday. This is an important move for Thailand in speeding up trade liberalisation in Southeast Asia as Thailand has been accused of foot-dragging by other ASEAN members. Mr Trairong however did not specify the number of items to be slashed from the original list of 118 items which Thailand tendered.

The minister heads the Thai delegation to the AFTA Council which is scheduled to convene here this evening. ASEAN countries have agreed to cut tariffs to 0-6 per cent within 15 years to promote intra-ASEAN trade. ASEAN members can request the temporary exclusion of certain items from the programme, but the list of temporary items must be revised within eight years. Permanent exclusion is reserved only for agricultural products and some items of national interest and security.

ASEAN agreed to cut tariffs in two tracks: normal track cutting will reduce tariffs to 0-5 per cent within 15 years, while fast track cutting for items with tariffs below 20 per cent will be reduced within seven years and for items with tariffs above 20 per cent within 10 years. Thailand has also overhauled 87 per cent of its inclusion list based on the six digit custom tariff harmonisation, with the proportion increasing to over 90 per cent if the nine digit system is included.

Mr Trairong said Thailand was ready to cut tariffs in the 15-sector fast track scheme from over 30 per cent to 25 per cent. He said fast track tariff reductions which Thailand originally proposed to start in 1995 would be brought forward a year with Thailand's readiness depending on the outcome of the AFTA Council meeting this evening.

"Thailand is not concerned about the loss of revenue. Too many concerns will only jeopardise ASEAN's goal in establishing AFTA," he said. Thailand is willing to sacrifice about 20 per cent of its revenue from import duties.

A Commerce Ministry official said Thailand was committed to the success of AFTA. The earlier the 20 per cent tariff cut target is achieved, the more it will benefit Thailand by bringing about other preferential offers from fellow ASEAN members, he said.

Official Counsels Caution on Russian Investment

BK0610020793 Bangkok *THE NATION* in English
6 Oct 93 p A4

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan yesterday warned Thai investors to wait for the political turbulence in Russia to calm down before entering into new business deals there. Thai investors should gather new information after the situation returns to normal and the Russian Parliament is reopened, he said. Surin added that the Russian government does have laws aimed at boosting foreign investment but some measures have been suspended by the rebellious Parliament.

He also said that the current situation in Russia will not affect that country's repayment of rice debts owed Thailand. According to Surin, a meeting between high-ranking Thai and Russian committees will be held in January next year and discussions about the rice deals will be included. Russia owes Thailand some US\$263 million for the purchase of 500,000 tonnes of rice prior and after the demise of the Soviet empire.

Surin also said that the Thai ambassador in Moscow had informed him that the situation in Russia is now almost completely under control despite some continued shooting around Moscow. Surin said that with support from other nations, Russian President Boris Yeltsin would be able to rebuild harmony and unity in the country. He commented that more legal reform is needed in Russia if the country is to pursue its democratic path and free trade policy.

On Monday, Surin said Thai people living in Moscow and their property were safe. He added that Thailand could not take a stance to support either faction in the Russian struggle, which the minister described as an internal affair of that country.

Official Comments on Trade Deficit With Burma

BK0210143993 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 2 Oct 93

[Text] Samroeng Trai-ukhot, commercial attache attached to the Thai Embassy in Rangoon, revealed that Thailand suffered a trade deficit of over 3 billion baht in 1992. Thailand imported precious stone, timber, and seafood worth 47 billion baht from Burma while the latter purchased only 17 billion baht worth of Thai goods.

[Begin Samroeng recording] The export of products Thailand buys has been banned by the Burmese Government. Gems is an example. I am not sure about the accuracy of the export figures obtained by the Burmese side concerning the value of some products such as timber. [end recording]

In conclusion, the commercial attache said that Thailand will have to continue to tolerate a trade deficit with Burma because we still need resources such as gems, timber, and seafood from that country.

Spokesman: Country Joins Nonaligned Movement

BK0510140493 Bangkok *Voice of Free Asia* in Thai
1030 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Sakthip Krairoek, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department, reported that on 4 October Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri attended the ministerial meeting of the Non-aligned Movement, or NAM, as an observer. The meeting was presided over by the Indonesian foreign minister. At the meeting, Thailand was accepted and endorsed as a full member of NAM. The meeting also accorded full membership to Honduras, allowed the Republic of Kyrgyzstan observer status, and the Czech and Slovak Republics as guests. This has brought the level of NAM membership to 110 countries.

In his address to the meeting, Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri thanked the chairman and members of NAM for supporting Thailand as a new member of the movement. He said Thailand adopts the same principle as NAM—respect for other countries' independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, and noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries. The movement contributes to international cooperation. The foreign minister pledged that Thailand will give full support and cooperation for NAM achievements.

New Commanders Reaffirm Apolitical Status

*BK0210062093 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
2 Oct 93 p 1.3*

[Text] THE new Air Force and Navy commanders-in-chief yesterday pledged to distance themselves from politics and provide full support for the civilian government of Prime Minister Chuan Likphai. Air Force Commander-in-Chief ACM M.R. Siriphong Thongyai said the Air Force under his command would adhere to its main duty of protecting national sovereignty and its security.

"One of our main policies in the Air Force is non-interference in politics. We are a tool of the government in protecting national security and its sovereignty," said the 58 year-old officer at a press conference after officially taking over as Air Force chief from ACM Kan Phimanthip.

ACM M.R. Siriphong said he did not think it proper for the military to interfere in politics and the Air Force would abide strictly by this stand. He also urged reporters not to ask him about issues not related to military affairs.

"Please don't ask me any political questions," he said. "I will answer all questions about the Air Force but not political matters," said the former military attache to Canberra.

"I have no knowledge of politics. It is the role of the Government to resolve any problems. We will give our support to the Government" as required under a democratic system.

M.R. Siriphong, the former assistant Air Force commander, was handpicked by ACM Kan to become the new Air Force chief. He is due to retire in 1996.

New Navy Commander Adm Prajaed Siridet also pledged to distance himself from politics saying all the Armed Forces would back the government of His Majesty the King.

"The Navy is a government mechanism and it is our duty to support the government of His Majesty the King," he said. He said the military was disciplined and would follow the orders of its superiors strictly.

A Government House source said Prime Minister Chuan recently invited ACM M.R. Siriphong and Adm Prajaed to separate meetings where he urged them to help protect the country's democratic system. The source said the Premier had a lot of faith and confidence in the two new commanders as he considered them tough professional soldiers who would not stray from the democratic system.

"This Government should not be concerned about being toppled by the military as all three Armed Forces commanders are known to be professional soldiers who have no political aspirations. There is no doubt the three, particularly Army chief Wimon Wongwanit, will support this Government," said one Army general.

Vietnam**Commentary Views Vice Premier's U.S. Talks**

*BK0610114393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English
1000 GMT 6 Oct 93*

[Station Commentary]

[Text] The U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher once again affirmed that the U.S. Administration desired to reconsider regularly its relations toward Vietnam during a working session with Vice Prime Minister Phan Van Khai, who was on a visit to Washington. Mr. Christopher said: The United States is ready to make a further step in its relations with Vietnam, on the basis of real progress made in the settlement of the MIA issue. How did the meeting take place, and what are the prospects of U.S.-Vietnam relations? Here is our radio editor's opinion:

Mr. Phan Van Khai, the first vice prime minister of Vietnam, has come to New York for the 48th Session of the UN General Assembly. He was also the first senior Vietnamese leader who came to the United States since the end of the war in Vietnam in 1975. Washington highly valued the visit. Top officials from the White House had met with Mr. Khai. This clearly manifested important significance of the visit.

During the meeting with Mr. Khai, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said: The visit indicated that the war between the two countries came to a definitive end. He admitted that real progress was made in the settlement of the MIA issue. The top U.S. diplomat said in response to Vietnam's positive assistance, U.S. President Bill Clinton has decided to promote relations between the two countries by allowing Vietnam to enjoy relations with the IMF, and increasing humanitarian aid to Vietnam.

Vice Prime Minister Phan Van Khai reaffirmed Vietnam's stance to close the past, look forward to the future, and build a new relationship between Vietnam and the United States. Vietnam, he said, has done and will do its best to cooperate with the United States in the settlement of the MIA issue. The two sides noted that the meeting marked a new step of development in the relations between the two countries, although at present, not everything is settled in the relations between the two countries.

The general tendency of the public opinion in America, especially from the business circle, wants to cooperate and do business with Vietnam. According to the TIME magazine, in the first seven months of this year, some 160 American companies have applied and been given permission to enter Vietnam to seek business opportunity there. It is predicted that many more American businessmen as well as American companies will come to Vietnam.

At their meeting with Mr. Khai, Senator John Kerry and Congressman Samuel Gibbons reiterated their wishes to see the U.S. Government's embargo against Vietnam lifted soon, and the normalization of relations with Vietnam, considering it the best way to settle outstanding issues between the two countries.

Do Muoi Feted in Singapore 5 Oct

*BK0510163293 Hanoi VNA in English 1615 GMT
5 Oct 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 5—Prime Minister and General Secretary of the People's Action Party of Singapore Goh Chok Tong gave a grand banquet at the Presidential Palace this evening in honour of General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee [CPV CC] Do Muoi on the occasion of his official visit to Singapore.

Present at the banquet on the Singapore side were Lee Hsien Loong, deputy prime minister; S. Dhanabalan, minister for trade and industry; Yeo Ning Hong, minister for defence; George Yong-Boon Yeo, minister for information and the arts and second minister for foreign affairs; Mah Bow Tan, minister for communications and the environment; Lim Heng Kiang, minister of state for national development; Teo Chee Hean minister of state for finance and communications; and other officials. On the Vietnamese side were Le Phuoc Tho, Politburo member, and head of the Commission for Organization of the CPV CC; Hong Ha, secretary and head of the Central Party's External Relations Commission; Tran Duc Luong, Vice Prime Minister; Nguyen Manh Cam, foreign minister, and other officials.

In his dinner speech, P.M. Goh Chok Tong said, among other things, 'Singapore has always regarded Vietnam as an important member of the Southeast Asian community, despite our vast differences over Cambodia. With a population of 70 million, Vietnam is the second most populous state in Southeast Asia. Our neighbourhood could not preserve the current atmosphere of peace and stability if one of our largest members is not prospering. Singapore and its ASEAN partners share a common interest in the continuing success of Vietnam's 'doi moi' or economic renovation programme. We will do all we can to help Vietnam sustain its current robust economic growth.'

'Singapore is happy that Vietnam is re-joining the Southeast Asian community. We applauded Vietnam's accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia in July 1992. We welcomed Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam to the 26th ASEAN ministerial meeting held in Singapore in July 1993. Vietnam's observer status within ASEAN has also allowed it to participate in ASEAN functional cooperation activities. These cover a wide range of dialogue and close cooperation to better the lives of their peoples. I am also pleased that in 1994, Vietnam will join the inaugural meeting of the ASEAN regional forum to discuss political and security issues in the Asia-Pacific region.'

'Vietnam's increasing cooperation with Singapore and ASEAN will pave the way for Vietnam's integration into the larger Asia-Pacific community. Because of its geography and culture, Vietnam is well placed to become another dynamic economy in East Asia. The process has already begun. Foreign investments have flowed steadily into Vietnam. Vietnam's trade is increasing. Today, almost 80 percent of Vietnam's trade is done with Asia countries, not with Eastern Europe as before. We hope our trade will grow rapidly.'

'Mr General Secretary, we are marching into an even more hopeful chapter in our bilateral relations. Your visit to Singapore has given our relations further impetus'.

In his reply General Secretary Do Muoi said: 'It is a genuine joy for me to visit your beautiful Singapore for the first time and see with my own eyes the spectacular achievements recorded by a country not large nor populous and with not much natural resources, but which has reached a high level of development and established itself as an economic, commercial, and financial centre of great importance and world renown. We share your joy and pride over your successes. We express our admiration and sincerely wish the Singapore people many more achievements in the cause of construction and development of their prosperous country.'

'This afternoon, I had a meeting and an exchange of views with his excellency the president and open, sincere and fruitful talks with his excellency the prime minister on the state of Vietnam—Singapore relations and on international and regional issues of mutual concern. We note with satisfaction that many of our perceptions are similar or close to each other, especially the shared desire to further strengthen the friendship and multifaceted, cooperation between the two countries in the interests of both nations, and of peace, stability, cooperation and development in South East Asia and the rest of the world'.

He went on: The rapid and profound changes in the world situation have placed nations before new opportunities and new challenges [sentence as received]. Peace, stability, cooperation and development have become a vital and pressing need for each nation. In such circumstances, we have persistently carried out a policy of economic renewal along with efforts towards gradual political renewal and guarantee of socio-political stability and pursued an independent, sovereign and open foreign policy calling for multilateralization and diversification of our international relations. We wish to 'befriend all countries in the international community and strive for peace, independence and development'. We attach importance to the broadening of relations with neighbouring countries, with countries in Asia and the Pacific—a so dynamically growing region. We pay great attention to multifaceted cooperation with each ASEAN country and ASEAN as a whole. We are prepared to join ASEAN at an appropriate time and take part in the regional security forum on time and take part

in the regional security forum on the basis of the principles of peaceful co-existence. We will make every possible effort in contributing to making South-East Asia a zone of peace, cooperation, development and prosperity.

I am glad to note that over the past two years the Vietnam-Singapore relations of friendship and cooperation have developed unceasingly. Singapore is now Vietnam's largest trading partner and the ASEAN country with biggest investment in Vietnam. We welcome and sincerely thank the Singapore Government for the importance it attaches to the promotion of relations with Vietnam, especially in the fields of economy and trade, and for the valuable suggestions, and rich experience in economic management and national development it has shared with us. This is of particular importance for us in our process of renewal. It is our wish that in the coming period, the friendship and many-sided cooperation between our two countries will be further strengthened and broadened, covering the fields of politics, economy, trade, culture, science, technology, education, public health, tourism, etc... And bringing our relations to a new stage with higher efficiency.

We have firm grounds for the further development of our bilateral relations both the Vietnamese people and the Singapore people uphold the spirit of national independence and self-reliance, maintain and develop national cultural identity, and are willing to promote the trend of peace, stability and development in the region and the world over.

I am convinced that my official visit to Singapore will contribute to the enhancement of mutual understanding and trust, and the broadening of cooperation in many fields between our two countries.

Parliamentary Group Visits Shanghai, Guangdong
OW0510124893 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in Mandarin
0830 GMT 4 Oct 93

[From the "News" program]

[Text] A Vietnam delegation from the Economic and Budget Committee of the National Assembly made a formal visit to China 20 September to 1 October. During the visit, the Vietnamese National Assembly delegation held talks with China's relevant departments. The delegation visited places including Shanghai, Guangdong, and Shenzhen.

German Ambassador Views Economic Cooperation
BK0310133193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 2 Oct 93

[Statement by German Ambassador to Vietnam Kraemer Klaus; place, date not given—recording in German fading into Vietnamese translation]

[Summary] Dear Vietnamese friends: Today the German people commemorate the third anniversary of

the unification of Federal Germany. The day also marks an important event in the relations between Germany and Vietnam. Although the German Democratic Republic exists no more, Vietnam and Germany wish to maintain the long-standing bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation.

"Indeed, the recent visit to Federal Germany by Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet has testified to this fact. Germany has recognized Vietnam's renovation undertaking and is ready to help the country successfully implement this policy, to the best of its ability and in conformity with Vietnam's aspirations.

"Over the past two years, the value of bilateral economic cooperation has reached 85 million deutsche marks, mostly in nonrefunded aid to Vietnam. The cooperation is aimed at meeting fundamental requirements in the fields of public health, environmental protection, training, long-term infrastructure projects serving the energy and railway sectors, and other economic development programs in Vietnam.

"In October, the German and Vietnamese Governments will reach agreement on various projects to expand bilateral relations. Under these agreements, Germany will provide Vietnam with 130 million deutsche marks in 1993.

"However, economic relations between the Vietnamese and German private sectors have not developed satisfactorily. German companies' investments in Vietnam are still minimal. Nevertheless, the two governments are making great efforts to create favorable conditions for the German private sector to invest more in Vietnam and help the country to compete effectively in the world market.

"Bilateral economic cooperation is the most important factor at present, because it serves the interests of both countries. Thus, more efforts should be made to strengthen this task. It is hoped that early next year a German Cultural Institute will be set up in Hanoi. This institute will not only help to integrate thousands of our Vietnamese friends who speak German, but also help to promote friendship and cooperation between the governmental and private sectors of the two countries.

"Although I have been living in your country for a few weeks now, I can foresee Vietnam's earnest wish for Germany's cooperation and vice versa. I would like to say that we should not expect miracles, but we must set aims to fulfill our objectives. As a result, we must work hard to strengthen our cooperation and friendship and to enhance our mutual trust.

"In this spirit, I am convinced that we will succeed in our tasks."

Canadian Telecommunications Mission Visits
*BK0410080793 Hanoi VNA in English 0716 GMT
4 Oct 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 4—A delegation of ten Canadian telecommunications firms will visit Vietnam from October 2 to 9 to present seminars focussing on Canadian technologies developed for rural telecommunications. The group, accompanied by embassy officials, will visit the post and telecom authorities in Hanoi, Danang and Ho Chi Minh City, and will examine the opportunities for sales, technology transfer and joint ventures.

While some of the firms are visiting Vietnam for the first time, others, such as Northern Telecom, Skywave Electronics and Ultimateast Data Communications, have been investigating the Vietnamese market for some time. Some, such as Telesat Canada and Spar Communications Group, provide satellite transmission services, while TX/Communications Canada and Mitel focus on telephone switching. Novatel, a leading manufacturer of mobile communications equipment and Bayly Communications, are also represented, together with Simpson Power, which provides alternative power sources for utilities.

The companies participating in this mission represent a wide range of industrial expertise suitable to Vietnam's growing requirement in this essential area. They have come to Vietnam to share this acquired experience and knowledge, and to seek partners for the advancement of Vietnam's telecommunications infrastructure.

Economic Training Agreement Signed With UNDP

*BK0510151193 Hanoi VNA in English 1445 GMT
5 Oct 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 5—The project on 'Strengthening Economic Management Training' funded by the United Nations Development Programme [UNDP] was signed here yesterday between deputy head of the Government Office Doan Manh Giao and representative of the UNDP Michael Gautier. The signing was witnessed by Le Xuan Trinh, cabinet minister and head of the Government Office, and Ambassador Peter Keegan Williams of Great Britain.

Among those present at the signing ceremony were representatives of the State Planning Commission (SPC), the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment, the Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA), the Canadian International Development Association (CIDA), the British Petroleum (BP), etc.

According to UNDP sources, this project codenamed VIE/93/004 (Phase II) has been designed to build on the foundations that were established by the very successful

first phase of the project 'Strengthening Economic Management' which was also funded by the Management Development Programme of UNDP.

The focus of the second phase will change to reflect the changing needs of the government during the transition to a market economy. In particular, it will focus on the need to improve policy coordination between central and local levels of government by providing more focused economic management training to provincial officials and enterprise managers. At the same time, it will strengthen the capacity of the office of the government in its new policy coordination role as secretariat to the prime minister and cabinet.

The major activities of the project are a series of specialized in-country economic policy training programmes, in-country training courses for enterprise managers study tour, training attachments and secondments [as received] in the region, a policy seminar, training of simultaneous interpreters for economics, and preparation of training materials.

Financing for these activities will come from UNDP resources (860,000 USD [U.S. dollars]) and through co-financing (400,000 USD) which is being sought from bilateral donors.

Further on Vo Van Kiet Meeting With CACCI

BK0510112793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 4 Oct 93

[Text] On 4 October, at the Presidential Palace in Hanoi, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet cordially received delegates to the conference of the Confederation of Asia-Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry [CACCI], led by its president, R.P. Goenka. The conference discussed strategies to develop medium- and small-scale enterprises in Asia and the Pacific.

At the meeting, the CACCI president expressed the firm belief that Vietnam will develop remarkably and play an important role in the Asia-Pacific region. He asserted that the CACCI and chambers of commerce in other countries will participate positively in Vietnam's economic and national reconstruction programs.

On behalf of the Vietnamese Government, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet warmly welcomed the CACCI president and delegates to the conference. The prime minister expressed the hope that following the conference, cooperation between Vietnam and CACCI and each of its members will be strengthened and developed for the sake of mutual economic interests and the stability and development of the region. He urged the CACCI to provide Vietnam with more assistance and allow Vietnam to share its experiences in formulating policies and strategies for developing medium- and small-scale enterprises.

Nong Duc Manh Meets Quang Ngai Ethnic Delegates

BK0510104993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 4 Oct 93

[Text] On the afternoon of 4 October, Comrade Nong Duc Manh, party Political Bureau member and chairman of the National Assembly, warmly received an elderly ethnic cadre delegation from Quang Ngai Province in the Ba Dinh Conference Hall.

The delegation included 20 Hre, Co-song, and Co cadres from the mountainous districts of Ba To, Tra Bong, Son Ha, and Minh Long. The ethnic cadres took part in the wars against the French and the Americans at different levels in Quang Ngai Province.

At the reception, the cadres presented the concerns and thoughts of the ethnic minority people in Quang Ngai Province. They also offered suggestions to the party and state for better execution of party Political Bureau Resolution No. 22 and Government Decision No. 72 on the renovation undertaking and socioeconomic construction in mountainous areas.

In his cordial conversation with the cadres, Chairman Nong Duc Manh hailed the cadres for their contributions to national defense and construction. He took notes on their suggestions regarding requirements for socioeconomic development in mountainous areas; namely, the construction of roads and hydroelectricity projects, the improvement of medical and education services, and the preferential policy for mountainous areas and ethnic cadres.

The chairman wished the cadres good health and hoped they would further develop an exemplary role for their children to follow in rebuilding their homeland, in concert with the national effort to build our prosperous and beautiful country.

Nong Duc Manh Attends Journal Anniversary

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[Text] The NGUOI DAI BIEU NHAN DAN [PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVE] Journal of the SRV National Assembly Office this morning, 5 October, held a get-together to mark its fifth founding anniversary. Attending the function were Nong Duc Manh, chairman of the National Assembly; Vu Mao, chief of the National Assembly Office; Nguyen Viet Dung, head of the Presidential Office; and representatives of National Assembly Organizations and mass media agencies.

At the function, National Assembly leaders and staff of the journal exchanged views aimed at improving the quality of its correspondents, editorial staff, and management to attract more readers.

Do Muoi Visits Youth Journal Staff 3 Oct

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[Text] On the morning of 3 October, Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi visited the staff of the journal TIEN PHONG, a press organ of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of its first edition.

Cordially addressing cadres and correspondents of the journal TIEN PHONG, the comrade general secretary praised the Youth Union for its media system, especially for its journal TIEN PHONG, which has played an important role in educating and rallying youths to dedicate themselves to the fatherland.

Touching on the current role of youths, the various organizations in charge of rallying youths, and those journals belonging to the younger generation, the comrade general secretary emphatically said:

With its correct line and appropriate steps, the renovation process in our country is taking place in an intensive fashion. This is a very important turning point in our national revolution, under which the youth force plays an important role. Satisfactorily carrying out youth-related tasks is tantamount to generating a force with which our people can overcome all obstacles and difficulties, promptly advance past being a poor and backward country, and upgrade to the position they deserve in the international community. This is also a fundamental condition for improving political and social stability; firmly defending national independence and sovereignty; consolidating the new system; and remaining firm on the path chosen by Uncle Ho, our party, and our people.

Youths play an exceptionally important role, now and in the future. From today's large contingent of youths, more national leaders, great experts, high-caliber scientists, outstanding writers and artists, athletes with outstanding world-level records, skilled workers, and competent business managers will be born.

A get-together of young businessmen held recently in Ho Chi Minh City shows that there is a generation of competent young businessmen in Vietnam who have been helping and will help vigorously develop the Vietnamese economy and blend it with the world market.

Profoundly aware of the important role of youths and their huge potential, the party Central Committee's Fourth Plenum issued a resolution on the need to care for, foster, and develop human factors for the sake of a prosperous people, a powerful nation, and a civilized society. Regarding youths as a key force in this important mandate, the party should place its profound confidence in youths, develop their mastership role and huge latent potential, and create conditions for them to fulfill their historic mandate of taking the lead in the

fight to prevail over poverty and backwardness and building and defending the socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

Because youths are a sensitive generation that can easily absorb new things, the party and state should work out a plan to train, foster, and arm our country's younger generation with the knowledge they need to meet the 21st century in a well-deserving fashion.

Our youths should be a new generation of Vietnamese who live with a noble cause, human kindness, a sense of responsibility as citizens, good knowledge, good health, working ability, and a boundless love for the country and the people.

The responsibility for motivating youth rests with the entire society, with the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union playing the core role. Party members should always take the lead, set good examples in all activities, and befriend the younger generation. The media system of the Youth Union, especially the journal TIEN PHONG, should play an important role in educating, rallying, and encouraging youths nationwide to dedicate themselves to the fatherland and the people.

The comrade general secretary said:

Although I am busy with a heavy workload, I always concern myself with the situation of youths and the activities of the Youth Union. Through the journal TIEN PHONG and other Youth Union newspapers, I further understand the aspirations and needs of youths as well as the younger generation's feelings of closeness and confidence toward our party. I am aware that in recent years the journal TIEN PHONG has shown some encouraging signs. As a mass-circulation journal whose contingent of cadres and correspondents is always gaining professionalism, TIEN PHONG has won an increasing readership among the youths.

I would like to praise you, Comrades, for these efforts. I would like to remind you further that the journal should pay more attention to helping youths gain more understanding about the party, especially the current party renovation and rectification drive; providing guidance for youths in their bid to become party members; educating youths on the traditions and ethics of our forefathers; and directing youths toward preserving and developing our national identity.

I suggest that the state and publishing organs cooperate with various press organs in bringing newspapers into

the hands of youths and people in rural, mountain, and offshore island areas, where newspapers are in great demand.

Dredging Facilitates Traffic at Southern Port

BK0410134593 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 3 Oct 93

[Text] For more than six years now, the channel leading to the Thuan An Port, Thua Thien-Hue Province, has become shallower and shallower due to the prolonged mud deposits and a lack of funding for dredging, thus making cargo handling activities difficult for heavy tonnage freighters at the wharf. With funding provided by Thua Thien-Hue Province, the Thuan An Port Authority has hired the Maritime Insurance Enterprise No. 2 to conduct a survey and a plan and the Seaway Dredging Corporation No. 1 to implement it.

After more than three weeks of dredging, traffic on the channel has become smoother. Inspections indicate that on the average, the channel is now 3.3 meters deep and its bed is 60 meters wide. Apart from the entrance to the channel which had been dredged the most, the waterway near the wharf has also benefitted from the project. As a result, the average depth in that area is 3.5 meters, thus making it safe enough for heavy tonnage freighters to berth.

On the recommendation of the Vietnam Maritime Insurance Corporation, the Thuan An Port Authority has hired the Maritime Insurance Enterprise No. 2 to deploy nine buoys to direct traffic from Float No. 1 to the port.

The dredging of the channel leading to the Thuan An Port has created favorable conditions for local socioeconomic development.

Phone System Installation Starts in Cao Bang

BK0310131093 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 2 Oct 93

[Text] The Cao Bang Province postal service has started the installation of a 1,792-line telephone network code-named TTX-1B at the provincial postal center to enhance the quality of information and communications services in this mountain and border province.

To date, the Cao Bang Province postal service has initiated the construction and installation of tens of projects which require a total investment of 20 billion dong and are expected to be completed by 1995.

Australia**Chilean President Gets Mixed Reception on Arrival**

PY0510212993 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Imagen Internacional in Spanish 1800 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Report by Arturo Harlem from Sydney]

[Text] President Patricio Aylwin arrived today in Sydney to begin the second leg of his tour of Oceania. His presence in Australia was given a mixed reception. In the first leg of this tour, Aylwin visited New Zealand, where both the Chilean Government and businessmen scored a resounding success. The former managed to start negotiations geared to signing a treaty on investment protection, while the latter held more than 150 meetings with New Zealand entrepreneurs in order to become more familiar with procedures to market Chilean products abroad.

After finishing their visit to New Zealand, Aylwin and his retinue flew to Sydney, Australia, where the Chilean president met with the Chilean community living there. His arrival was greeted with catcalls and yells. This unrest resulted in the arrest of one person. More than 1,000 Chileans waited for Aylwin inside Sydney's town hall, where the Chilean president addressed the attentive audience, summing up the country's current situation and the progress made to combat poverty:

[Begin Aylwin recording] I am fully convinced that we have tackled this problem with courage, intelligence, success, and determination, and that we are on the right track. Chile is consolidating its freedom. Chile's economy is growing. Chile is achieving social justice for all Chileans. [end recording]

Sydney will host the Olympic Games in the year 2000 and even though this is a long way off, billboards advertising this event have been posted everywhere. Meanwhile, the population is looking forward to the beginning of the first games of the third millennium.

Signs Extradition Treaty in Canberra

BK0610055493 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] The president of Chile, Patricio Aylwin, has arrived at Parliament House in Canberra for talks with Australia's prime minister, Paul Keating. It is the first visit to Australia by a Chilean head of state. The two men have signed an extradition treaty and a quarantine agreement and unveiled a plaque in honor of Australia's first Labor prime minister, Chilean-born, John Christian

Watson. It is expected President Aylwin's talks in Canberra will focus on the Uruguay Round of world talks, Chile's desire to join the Asia-Pacific Economic forum, APEC, and human rights. Australia is the third largest foreign investor in Chile.

Singaporean Troops Arrive for Joint Exercise

BK0210072293 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 2 Oct 93

[Text] More than 100 Malaysian soldiers will fly into Northern Australia today to take part in joint exercises. They'll join Australian troops in Exercise Southern Tiger '93. Meanwhile, more than 2,500 Singaporean soldiers have started arriving in Australia for a second exercise, Wallaby '93. They are currently spending five days on leave at Rockhampton in the state of Queensland.

New Zealand**'Strong Protest' Over Chinese Nuclear Test**

BK0610001793 Hong Kong AFP in English 2222 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Wellington, Oct 6 (AFP)—New Zealand was "very angry" at China for its resumption of nuclear testing and had lodged a strong protest, Foreign Minister Don McKinnon said in a statement here Wednesday. China, in conducting a nuclear test Tuesday, became the first nation in more than a year to do so. McKinnon said he had called Chinese ambassador Li Jinhua to file a protest.

"The test showed a blatant disregard for the views of the international community," McKinnon said. "This is a serious undermining of world expectations about the ending of testing which New Zealand is very angry about."

A 15-month moratorium on nuclear testing, which had been respected by Britain, France, Russia and the United States, is now under threat. China as a member of the Security Council was supposed to show restraint and leadership, but had not shown this responsibility, McKinnon said.

"The action, moreover, runs the risk of contributing to the dangers of proliferation, which is a major threat to the world in its search for stability after the Cold War," he said. The protest note acknowledged China's previous low level of testing frequency but said this did not provide justification for testing at this time.

"New Zealand is seriously disappointed that representations it has made at a high level on this subject twice in recent weeks have been ignored," he said.

